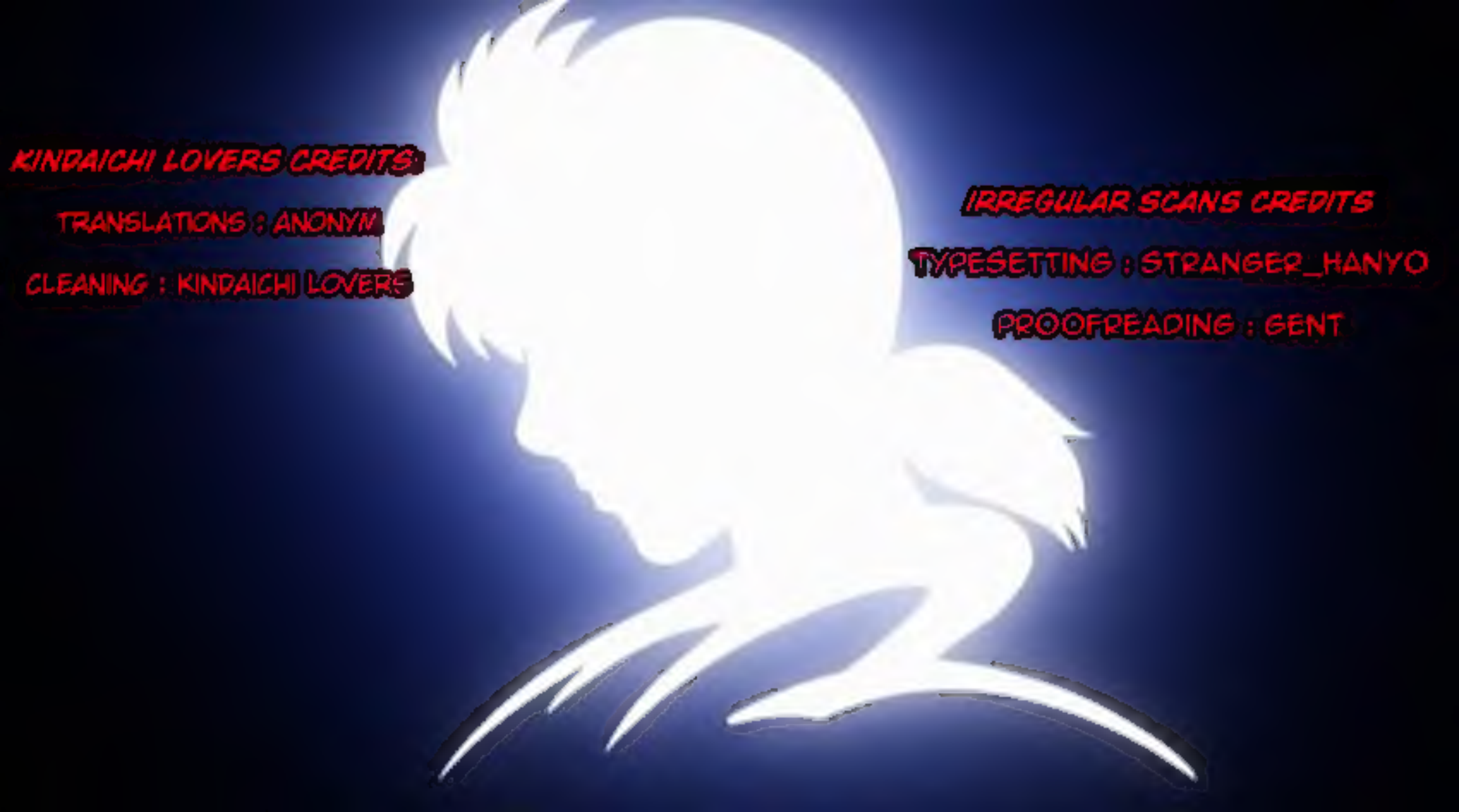
SHONEN MAGAZINE
COMICS
漫画 原作
天樹征丸
さとうふみや
6
金田一少年の事件簿R
リターンズ


KINDAICHI LOVERS CREDITS:
TRANSLATIONS : ANONYM
CLEANING : KINDAICHI LOVERS
IRREGULAR SCANS CREDITS
TYPESETTING : STRANGER_HANYO
PROOFREADING : GENT

IN A NOW-RENOVATED FACILITY WHICH WAS USED TO HOLD WAR PRISONERS CALLED *ANTLION TRENCH*

MIYUKI AND I WERE ASKED BY ITSUKI YOUSUKE, A FREELANCE WRITER, TO PARTICIPATE IN A 3-DAY PSYCHOLOGY EXPERIMENT,

NOT TOO LONG AFTER THAT ON THE SAME NIGHT, HANAGATA TAKUTO, WHO WORE YELLOW CLOTHES WAS ALSO FOUND STABBED.

HOWEVER, ONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS WEARING A BEIGE COLOR, AYASE IZUMI, WAS KILLED ON THE FIRST NIGHT,

金田一少年の事件簿R

WHO KILLED THEM IN THIS FACILITY SURROUNDED BY QUICKSAND?

MIZUKI NANAO

AYASE IZUMI

IWAKI KIRIHIKO

HACHIKURA SHUUTA

MAEDA JUNKI

TSUKASA KIRIKO

MAITANI KAEDE

HANAGATA TAKUTO

——蟻地獄壕殺人事件 第6話——

ANTLION TRENCH MURDER CASE - FILE 6

YOSH! I'LL HELP YOU!
IF YOU WANT ME TO DO SOMETHING, JUST SAY IT!
THE SAME AS ALWAYS, AREN'T YOU KINDAICHI...
HAJIME-CHAN ...
I MAY NOT LOOK LIKE IT BUT AS A NON-FICTION WRITER, I'M THE EXPERT IN GATHERING INFORMATION FROM PEOPLE!
LEAVE IT TO ME!
THEN HOW ABOUT "COLLECTING SCOOP" ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE WHO GATHER HERE AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP?
HUH? WASN'T IT BECAUSE I WAS ASKED BY MAEDA-SENSEI TO GATHER PEOPLE?
I HAVE A FEELING MAEDA-SENSEI HAS BEEN HIDING SOMETHING FROM US!
HAD BEEN MORE OR LESS MODIFIED IN SOME WAYS...
YES! I HAVE A FEELING THAT THE PSYCHOLOGY TESTS WE DID BEFORE COMING HERE...
ONE OF THE PEOPLE WHO'VE GATHERED IN THIS FACILITY IS THE KILLER, RIGHT?
BUT THAT MEANS...

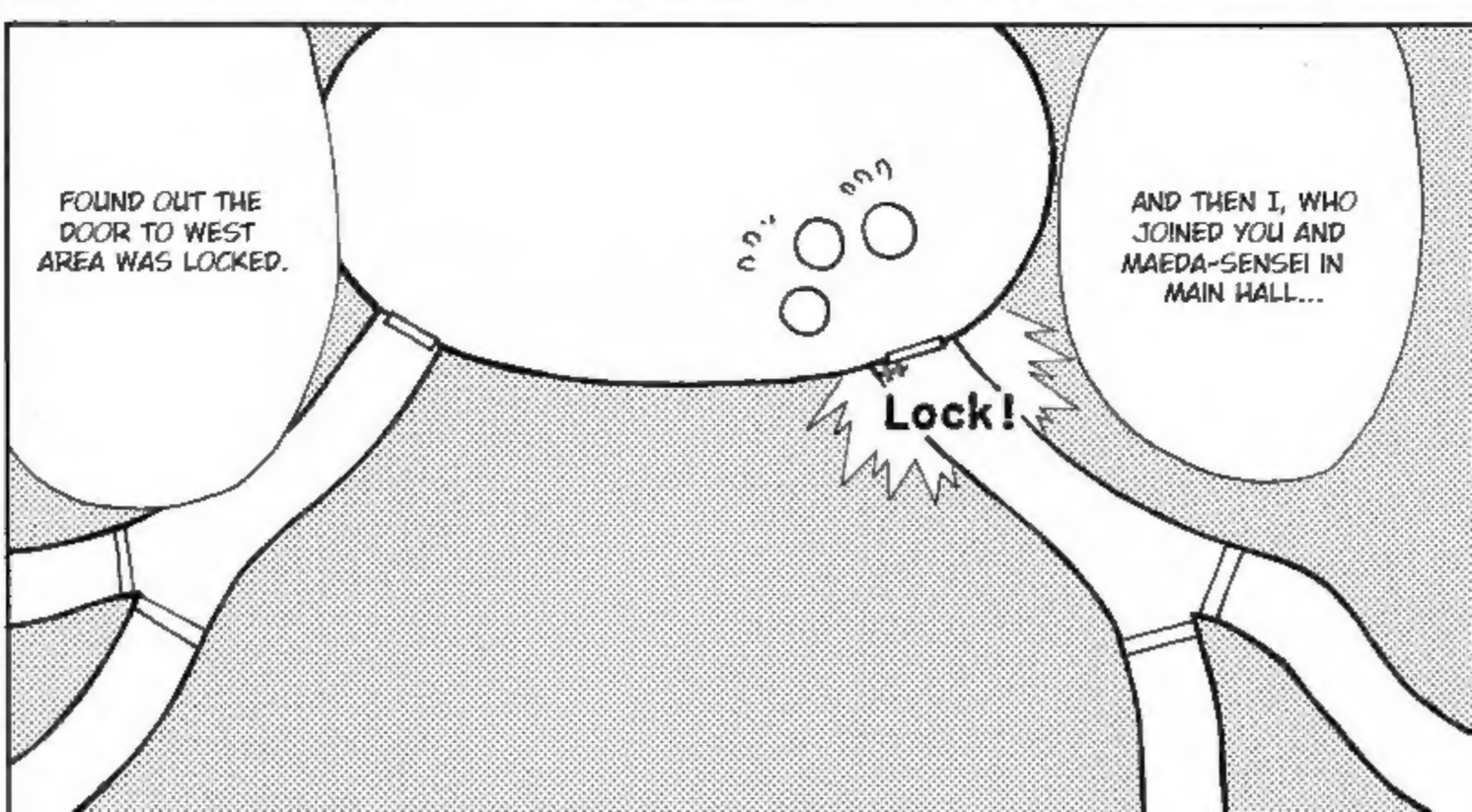
NOT YET! I'M STILL NOT SURE ABOUT THAT. THAT'S WHY I WANT TO HEAR EVERYONE'S STORY,
TO FIND ANYTHING THAT CAN BE A MOTIVE.
ARE YOU SUSPECTING MAEDA-SENSEI AS THE ONE WHO KILLED AYASE AND HANAGATA?
HIDING SOMETHING?
THE ONE WHO PROVED THAT IT COULD BE LOCKED FROM THE OTHER SIDE WAS YOU THOUGH, RIGHT?
YUP!
IT FEELS LIKE THE KILLER REALLY LOCKED IT FROM THE INSIDE.
SOMETHING'S BUGGING ME ABOUT THE LOCKED DOOR THAT LEADS TO THE WEST AREA.
ALL RIGHT THEN! HOW ABOUT YOU?
I'LL REINVESTIGATE THE FIRST AND SECOND MURDER.
THAT IT'S PART OF A CALCULATED PSYCHOLOGICAL TRICK.
BUT THAT'S WHY I ALSO THINK...

IT'S AS IF THE MURDERERS WANTED US TO THINK ONLY CERTAIN PEOPLE COULD HAVE DONE IT.
THE FACT THAT THESE TWO MURDERS DONE SEPARATELY WAS SOMEHOW OUT OF PLACE,
WHAT?
THAT MEANS A THIRD PARTY IS INVOLVED HERE!
BUT IF THAT VERY THOUGHT IS TRUE...
...

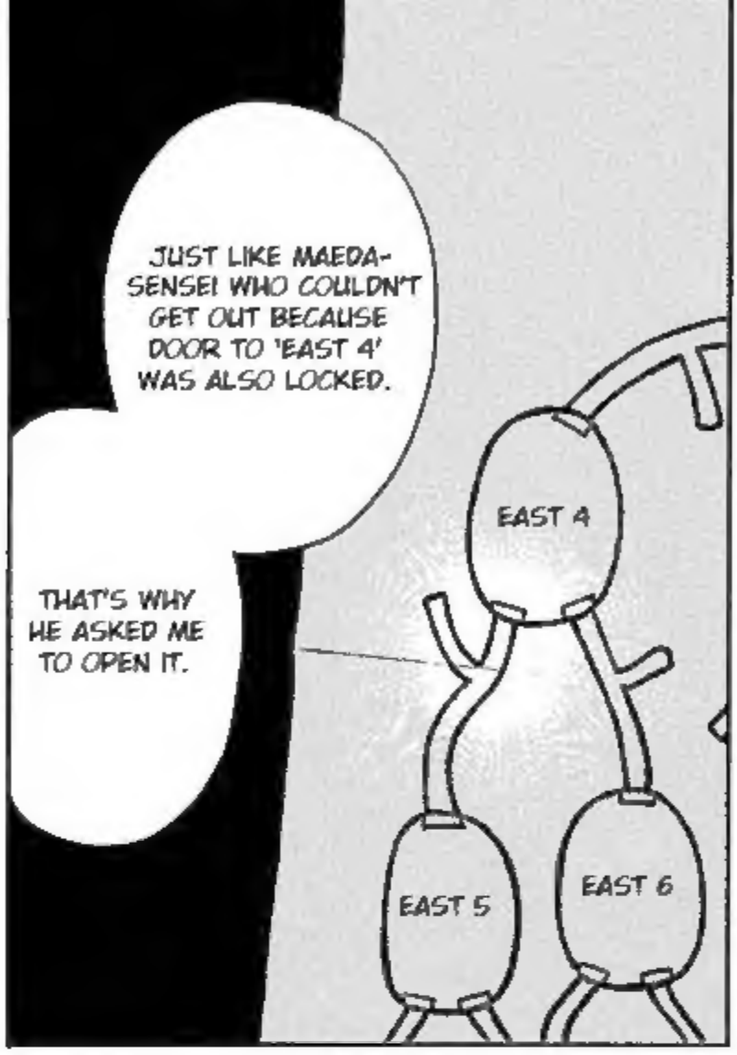
EH?
I RECEIVED AN INTERPHONE CALL FROM MAEDA-SENSEI 15 MINUTES AFTER THAT.
AYASE IS...
THE FIRST MURDER HAPPENED
AT AROUND 22:30 WHEN AYASE IZUMI'S VITAL SIGN STOPPED.

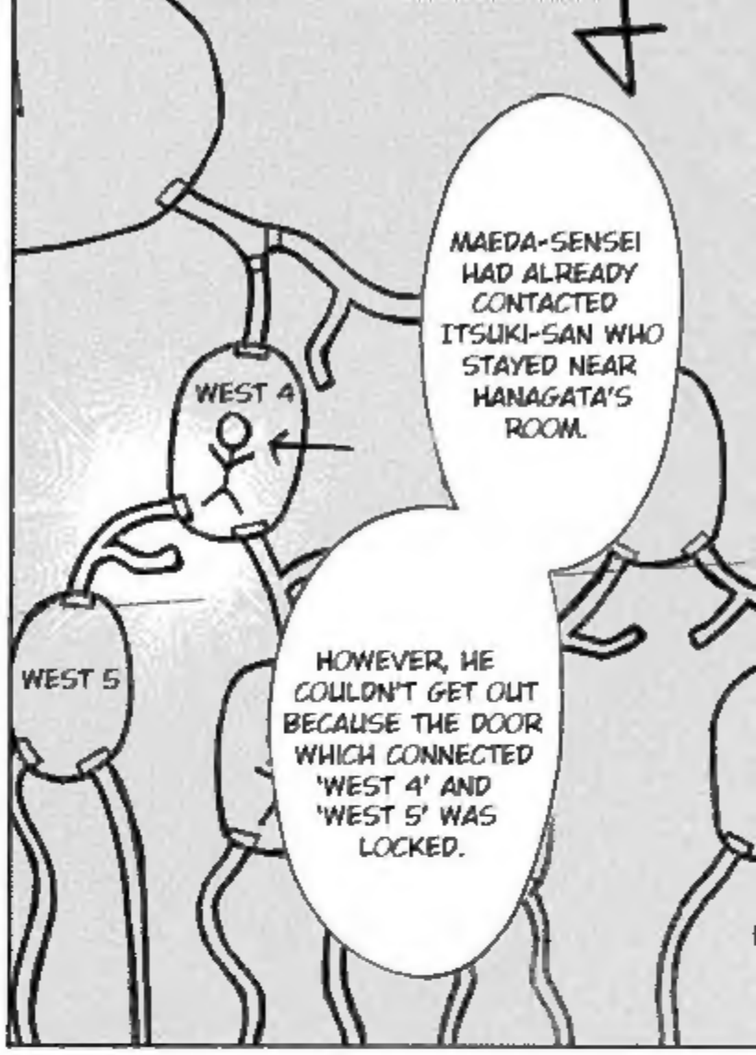
MAYBE MAEDA-SENSEI HAD ALREADY CONTACTED EVERYONE ELSE BY THEN!

NOT LONG AFTER THAT, SENSEI CALLED ME.
THAT'S RIGHT... MAEDA-SENSEI KNOCKED MY DOOR AT AROUND 22:40

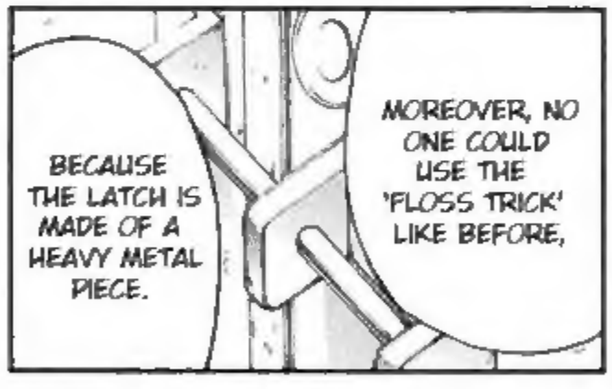

FOUND OUT THE DOOR TO WEST AREA WAS LOCKED.
Lock!
AND THEN I, WHO JOINED YOU AND MAEDA-SENSEI IN MAIN HALL...

THAT'S WHAT I REMEMBERED TOO!
YEAH...
HE THEN SAID THAT HE SAW A DEAD BODY.
ITSUKI-SAN EMERGED FROM THE OPENED DOOR WITH A PALE FACE.
RIGHT AFTER THAT, THE DOOR WAS OPENED,
IT WAS ALMOST MIDNIGHT BY THEN.
AFTER INSPECTIONS, WE ALL FINALLY LEFT THE MAIN HALL AN HOUR LATER.
AND LEFT HER IN WEST 4.
AND THEN WE TOOK A BLANKET FROM AYASE'S ROOM TO COVER HER BODY
ABOUT HANAGTA TAKUTO'S VITAL SIGN SUDDENLY STOPPING.
WHAT?
I RECEIVED AN INTERPHONE CALL FROM MAEDA-SENSEI
AN HOUR LATER, AROUND 1 AM,

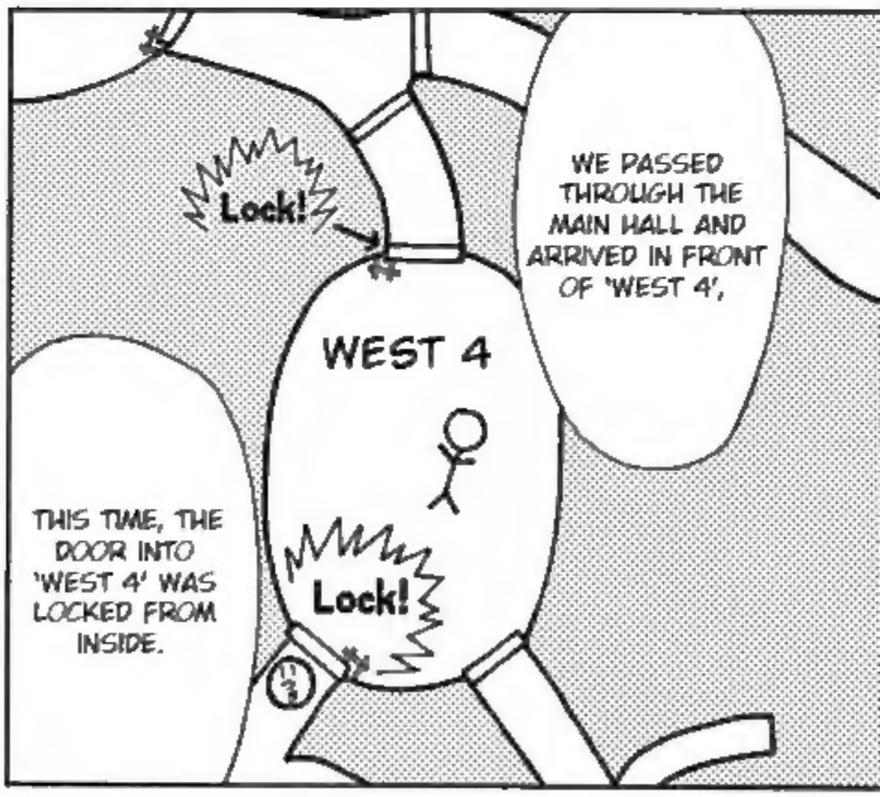

JUST LIKE MAEDA-SENSEI WHO COULDN'T GET OUT BECAUSE DOOR TO 'EAST 4' WAS ALSO LOCKED.
THAT'S WHY HE ASKED ME TO OPEN IT.
EAST 4
EAST 5
EAST 6

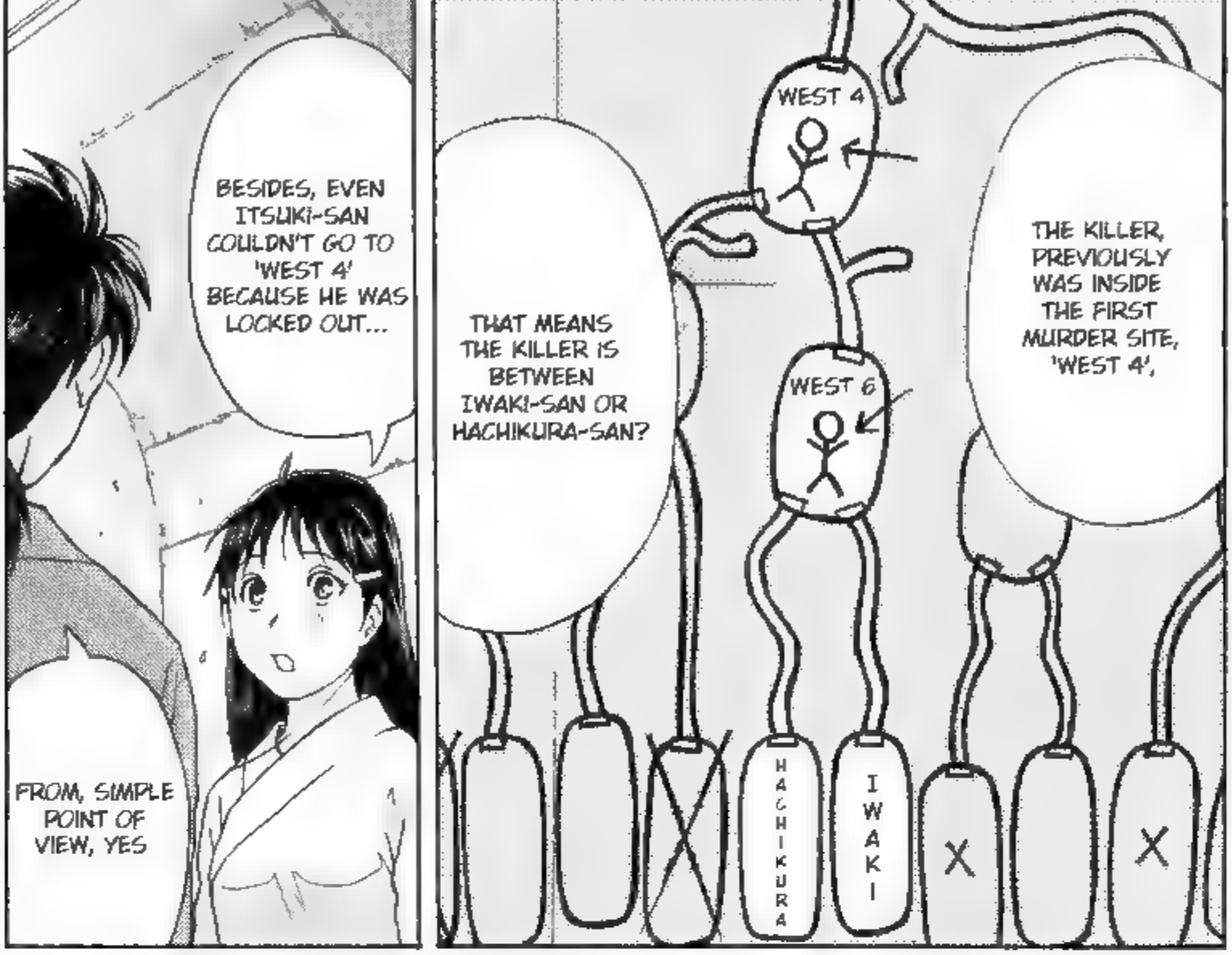

MAEDA-SENSEI HAD ALREADY CONTACTED ITSUKI-SAN WHO STAYED NEAR HANAGATA'S ROOM.
WEST 4
WEST 5
HOWEVER, HE COULDN'T GET OUT BECAUSE THE DOOR WHICH CONNECTED 'WEST 4' AND 'WEST 5' WAS LOCKED.

WE THEN CALLED MIYUKI AND MIZUKI TO OPEN FOR US.
IT TURNED OUT THE DOOR WAS ALSO LOCKED FROM THE OTHER SIDE.
Lock!
EAST 4
AFTER UNLOCKING THE DOOR, I CHECKED THE ONE WHICH LEADS TO THE MAIN HALL.

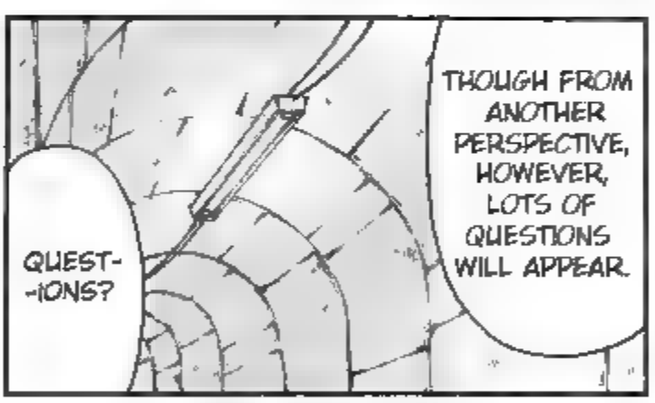

BECAUSE THE LATCH IS MADE OF A HEAVY METAL PIECE.
MOREOVER, NO ONE COULD USE THE 'FLOSS TRICK' LIKE BEFORE,

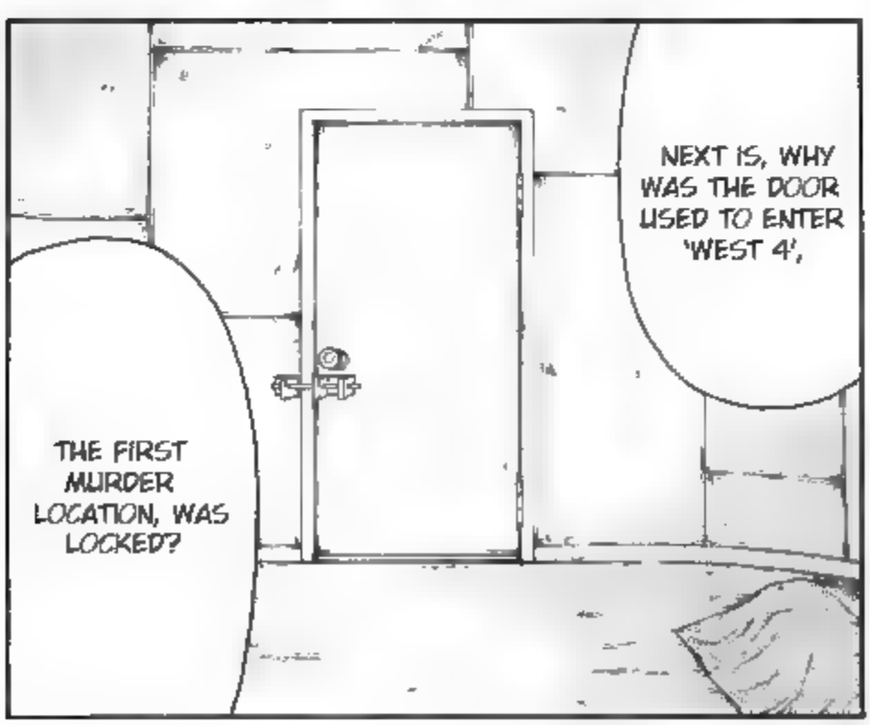
THAT MEANS...


Lock!
WEST 4
Lock!
WE PASSED THROUGH THE MAIN HALL AND ARRIVED IN FRONT OF 'WEST 4',
THIS TIME, THE DOOR INTO 'WEST 4' WAS LOCKED FROM INSIDE.


BESIDES, EVEN ITSUKI-SAN COULDN'T GO TO 'WEST 4' BECAUSE HE WAS LOCKED OUT...
FROM, SIMPLE POINT OF VIEW, YES
WEST 4
WEST 6
THAT MEANS THE KILLER IS BETWEEN IWAKI-SAN OR HACHIKURA-SAN?
THE KILLER, PREVIOUSLY WAS INSIDE THE FIRST MURDER SITE, 'WEST 4',
HACHIKURA
IWAKI
X
X

WHY DID THE KILLER LOCK IT?
YES. FOR EXAMPLE DURING THE FIRST MURDER, THE DOOR CONNECTING THE WEST SECTION AND MAIN HALL WAS LOCKED.


QUEST--IONS?
THOUGH FROM ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE, HOWEVER, LOTS OF QUESTIONS WILL APPEAR.


THE FIRST MURDER LOCATION, WAS LOCKED?
NEXT IS, WHY WAS THE DOOR USED TO ENTER 'WEST 4',

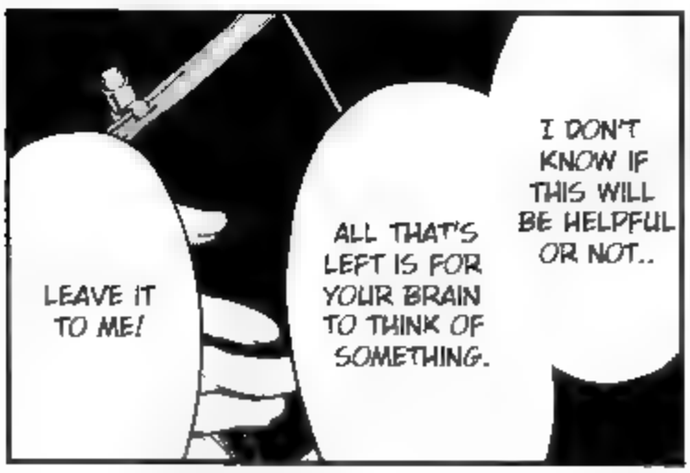
TO PREVENT PEOPLE FROM EAST SECTION TO COME CLOSER?
I DON'T KNOW... IT'S A BIT FAR-FETCHED, BUT

EH? REDUNDANT?
IF THEY WANT US TO THINK EITHER TWO OF THEM AS THE KILLER,
WHY USE A REDUNDANT METHOD LIKE THAT?
THE REASON WHY EVERYONE INCLUDING ITSUKI-SAN COULDN'T ENTER THE DOOR IS PROBABLY THAT
THAT'S. TO MAKE PEOPLE THINK THE KILLER IS EITHER HACHIKURA-SAN OR IWAKI-SAN?
THEY EVEN MADE ITSUKI-SAN NOT ABLE TO ACCESS 'WEST 4' WHY WAS THAT?
BUT WHY DID THE KILLER THEN MADE ONLY 2 OF THEM SUSPICIOUS THIS TIME?
YES. THE KILLER MADE US THINK THE KILLER WAS AMONG MAITANI, TSUKASA, IWAKI, HACHIKURA, HANAGATA AND ITSUKI-SAN IN THE FIRST MURDER.
THEY SHOULD'VE DONE SO FROM THE BEGINNING, RIGHT?
IF THE KILLER REALLY WANTED US TO THINK HACHIKURA OR IWAKI WAS THE CULPRIT,
TRICK?
I THINK THAT'S FOR A CERTAIN TRICK.
BUT THEN, WHY DID THE KILLER HAVE TO LOCK DOORS IN VARIOUS PLACES?
THAT MAKES SENSE!

IS ONE OF THE PROCEDURES THAT HAVE TO BE DONE IN THIS CASE!
CORRECT. IT'S HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT THE ACT OF LOCKING DOORS HERE..
AS MURDER PROTOCOL!
A VERY CUNNING PSYCHOLOGICAL TRICK,
FURTHERMORE, THE CASE IS NOT OVER!
IF THE KILLERS WERE OUTSIDERS. THEY WOULD'NT NEED THIS 'PROTOCOL'
THERE'S NO MISTAKING, THE KILLER IS ONE OF THE PEOPLE INSIDE THIS BUILDING!
PROTOCOL?!
A. .A MURDER...

WHAT SHOULD WE DO, HAJIME-CHAN?
I WILL NOT LET IT GO!
I'LL STOP IT BEFORE ANY MORE VICTIMS FALL!
WE HAVE TO STOP IT!

HAJIME-CHAN.

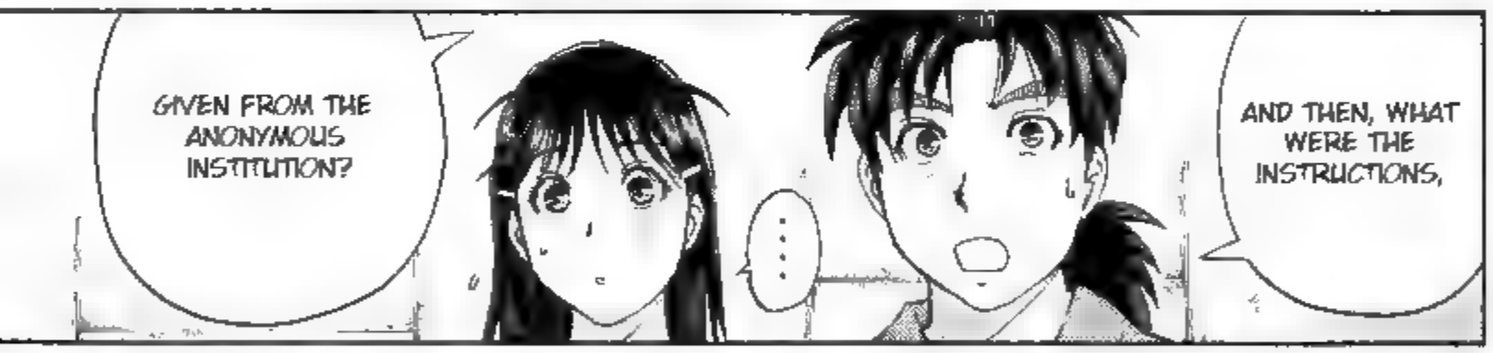

LEAVE IT TO ME!
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS FOR YOUR BRAIN TO THINK OF SOMETHING.
I DON'T KNOW IF THIS WILL BE HELPFUL OR NOT..

ITSUKI-SAN!
I'VE FINISHED THE INTERVIEW, KINDAICHI!

W-WHY SO SUDDEN, ITSUKI-SAN? I..
I'M A VETERAN WRITER, I CAN TELL FROM BODY LANGUANGE WHEN SOMEONE'S HIDING INFORMATION!
I FIRST TRIED TO ASK MAEDA-SENSEI ABOUT THE THING THAT MADE YOU CURIOUS.
AND THEN...
YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE IF YOU KEEP HIDING IT!
A..SO, THERE'S ALREADY TWO VICTIMS IN THIS 'EXPERIMENT'!
BEING A PROFESSOR IN A SECOND-RATE UNIVER--SITY WITH MINIMUM WAGE IS ENOUGH FOR ME.
I RECEIVED THE MONEY TO CONDUCT THIS EXPERIMENT FROM AN ANONYMOUS INSTITUTION.
HOWEVER, I HAD SMALL PROBLEM, A HUGE DEBT, ABOUT 5 MILLION YEN.
THIS IS...A REQUEST WITH A LARGE PAYMENT.
HM?
. . . .
YOU'D BETTER TELL ME BEFORE THAT HAPPENS.

THINKING IT WAS ONLY A JOKE, I CARELESSLY ACCEPTED THE TERM.
AND THEN ONE DAY, I RECEIVED A PACKAGE.
AT FIRST I THOUGHT THAT IT WAS ONLY A PRANK.
ANONY-
-MOUS
INSTI-
-TUTION?!
WHY DID YOU ACCEPT THIS SHADY REQUEST?
W-WHAT IS THIS?!
THIS...
!?
!!
PRIVATE RESEARCH INSTITUTION
COLOR PSYCHOLOGY LABORATORIUM
MAEDA-SAN,
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS 1 MILLION YEN AS AN UP-FRONT PAYMENT.
WE APPRECIATE YOUR WILLINGNESS TO CO-OPERATE WITH US.
PRIVATE RESEARCH INSTITUTION
COLOR PSYCHOLOGY LABORATORIUM

I WAS VERY SCARED, TO BE HONEST.
I COULDN'T SEND BACK THAT HUGE SUM OF MONEY.
I ALSO HAD A FEELING BAD THINGS WOULD HAPPEN IF I SUDDENLY QUIT.
. . . .


AND THEN, WHAT WERE THE INSTRUCTIONS,
. . . .
GIVEN FROM THE ANONYMOUS INSTITUTION?

ERR, THAT'S THE MOST CONFUSING PART...
EXPERIMENT METHOD, SAMPLING, EQUIPMENTS,
EVERYTHING HAD BEEN GIVEN BY THE INSTITUTION
THE MOST SHOCKING PART IS. .

MY INVOLVEMENT IN RECRUITING SUBJECTS,
HAD ALSO BEEN INCLUDED IN THE INSTRUCTION!
THUMP!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
T-THAT MEANS ASKING YOU TO RECRUIT THE SUBJECTS
WAS ALSO ONE OF THE INSTRUCTIONS?
WE CAN'T CONCLUDE THAT YET, BUT

THAT MEANS...
ALSO CONTAINS INCLUDE KINDAICHI HAJIME AND NANASE MIYUKI!
ANOTHER INSTRUCTION GIVEN BY THE, INSTITUTION
THUMP!
HAD ALREADY BEEN CALCULATED FROM THE BEGINNING!
THERE'S A POSSIBILTY THAT MY INVOLVEMENT AND YOUR RECRUITMENT,
DON'T TELL ME...!
I'VE ALREADY INVESTIGATED IT THE RICH INDIVIDUAL WHO BOUGHT THIS OLD MILITARY FACILITY,
REBUILT AND INCLUDED IT IN THEIR INVESTATION AND MANAGEMENT BUSINESS.
HOWEVER, THE ORGANIZATION'S IDENTITY REMAINS A MYSTERY
THIS PLACE IS OFTEN USED FOR VARIOUS BUSINESS ACTIVITIES AND SEMINARS.
THIS 'TSUKIOKA SAND HILL RESEARCH INSTITUTE' OR 'ANTLION TRENCH' OWNED BY A CERTAIN COMPANY IS COINCIDENTALLY AN OPEN FACILITY,

THAT'S TRUE.
PREPARING A CERTAIN TRICK BEFORE--HAND WILL BE A SIMPLE WORK, RIGHT?
BESIDES, THE BUILDING IS LEFT AS IT IS AND A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN USING THIS PLACE BECAUSE OF ITS SMALL RESERVATION COST, ONLY 1000 YEN.
WHAT A SUSPICIOUS BACK--GROUND!
I AGREE.
IS HIM?
IS IT TRUE THAT THE ONE ACTING BEHIND THIS MURDER CASE
KINDAICHI!
HAJIME-CHAN...
A PERSON WITH THE INTELLECT OF THE DEVIL HIMSELF...
YES!
THERE'S ONE MORE PERSON BEHIND THE "CULPRIT"!
AND COMMITS MURDER LIKE MAGIC TRICKS...
HE PREPARES CRIME STAGES AS IF PREPARING A STAGE SHOW,

THE PUPPETEER FROM HELL, TAKATO YOICHI,
THE ONE CONTROLLING THE STRINGS BEHIND THE STAGE LIKE A MARIONETTE,
IS DEFINITELY HIM!!!

KHU KHU KHU
IT'S ALREADY THE TIME FOR KINDAICHI-KUN TO REALIZE MY INVOLVEMENT!
I'VE ALREADY EXPECTED IT!
MAKE MY ARTISTIC CRIME MORE INTERESTING!
AS THE ONE WHO PLAYS THE DETECTIVE ROLE, GIVE ME A HINT TO FIND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!
A DEMON LAUGHS BEHIND THE CURTAIN!

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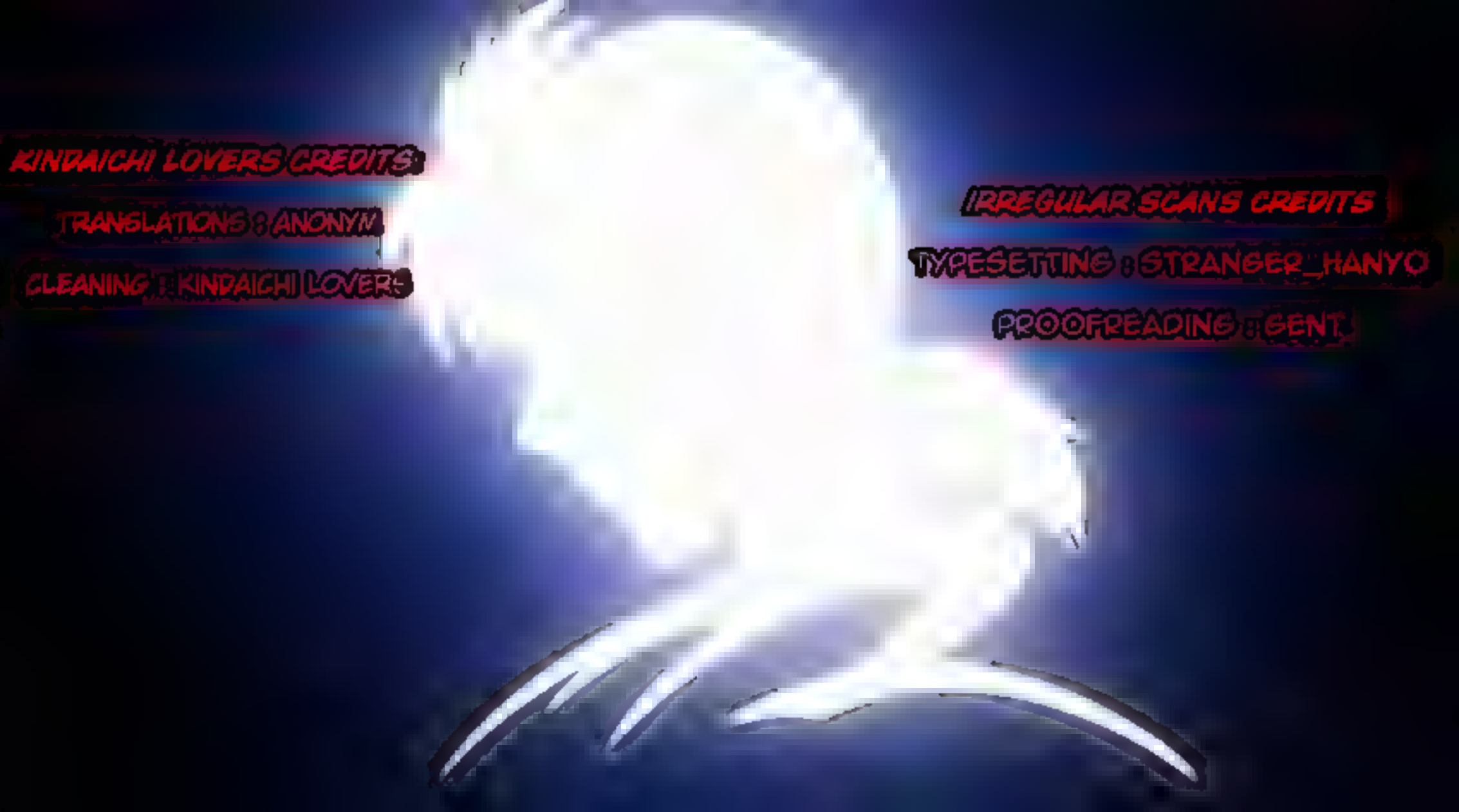
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IF THE PUPPETEER FROM HELL IS REALLY INVOLVED IN THIS CASE,

WE CAN'T SOLVE THIS CASE BY THE USUAL METHOD, RIGHT?

ANTLION TRENCH MURDER CASE - FILE 7

——蟻地獄壕殺人事件 第7話——

IT'S JUST LIKE HIM! BUT THIS TIME, I WILL FIND YOU FOR SURE!

BY CLEVERLY MANIPULATING PEOPLE'S PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITION, HE CAN MAKE A VERY DETAILED MURDER PLAN.

HE WON'T GET INVOLVED IN THIS CASE DIRECTLY,

THE ONE AGREED WAS ONLY HACHIKURA-KUN.

HOWEVER, MOST OF THEM WON'T COOPERATE NO MATTER WHAT,

GOT IT!

WHICH YOU GOT FROM THIS FACILITY ASIDE FROM MAEDA-SENSEI.

ITSUKI-SAN, THIS TIME I WANT TO HEAR THE INFORMATION.

I UNDERSTAND, TSUKASA-CHAN

WE MET FOR THE FIRST TIME WHEN I SEARCHED FOR SCHOOL-KIDS WHO DIDN'T WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL,

...YEAH...

I HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS AT ALL!

I CAME HERE BECAUSE ITSUKI-SAN ASKED ME FOR A PART--TIME WORK!

I WOULDN'T EVEN COME HERE WERE IT NOT FOR ITSUKI-SAN!

ALSO TSUKASA-CHAN WHO LIKES TO BE ALONE. I DID USE A BIT OF FORCE TO ENTER HER ROOM THOUGH...

BUT I NEVER WANT TO GO TO A PLACE FULL OF STRANGERS LIKE HERE!

INSTEAD MAKES ME MORE COMFORTABLE!

THESE BLACK CLOTHING AND ROOM

AND SINCE THAT I, STARTED TO GO SCHOOL LITTLE BY LITTLE.

THANKS TO THAT ARTICLE, I CAN SEE PEOPLE'S POINT OF VIEW ABOUT ME,

SPEAKING OF COLOR...

PSYCHO--LOGY TEST, HUH?

...

THE PSYCHOLOGY TEST ALSO HAD,

THE RESULT FOR ITSUKI-SAN'S STATE, RIGHT?

SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU'VE BEEN RESTLESS FROM THE BEGINNING, HANAGATA-KUN!

SHOULDN'T IT BE THE OPPOSITE AYASE-SENPAI?

PEOPLE TEND TO AVOID WEARING UNUSUAL CLOTHES.

SO I'M RATHER EXCITED!

IT'S BECAUSE BEIGE IS NOT A COLOR PEOPLE COMMONLY WEAR.

I JUST CAN'T STAND RED COLOR...

IT MAKES ME UNEASY FOR A REASON. .

THE PEOPLE IN GENERAL WERE NOT QUITE HAPPY WITH THEIR OWN COLOR.

ASIDE FROM HACHIKURA-KUN AND TSUKASA-CHAN,

ME TOO, I CAN'T FEEL CALM WITH THIS EMERALD COLOR.

は!?

THESE ORANGE CLOTHES AND ROOM MAKES ME DEPRESSED FOR THE WHOLE TIME.

THE FACT THAT WE'RE ISOLATED HERE IS WHAT MAKES ME STRESSED.

IT'S NOT LIKE I LIKE OR HATE THIS GRAY COLOR...

WELL YEAH...

BUT HACHIKURA-KUN SAID THIS,

THOSE TWO VICTIMS ALSO HAD A CERTAIN 'TRAUMA' RELATED WITH THE COLOR THEY GOT.

IT'S HIGHLY LIKELY THAT THOSE 'TRAUMAS' ARE RELATED WITH THIS CASE'S MOTIVE

TO PUT IT BLUNTLY...

I MYSELF HATE WEARING THIS DARK BLUE COLOR WHICH REMINDS ME OF OCEAN,

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I HAD A LIFE-AND-DEATH EXPERIENCE IN OCEAN BEFORE...

ACTIONS THAT RESURFACE TRAUMA?

IT'S SAID THAT CERTAIN ACTIONS CAN RESURFACE 'PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA'!

SO I KNOW ONE OR TWO THINGS ABOUT PSYCHOLOGY.

OI, KINDAICHI...

I WENT TO HUNT SOME DATA WITH MAEDA-SENSEI ONCE IN A WHILE,

FOR EXAMPLE?

'THAWING' THE ACCUMULATED MEMORY WILL RESULT IN SEVERAL ACTS REFERRED AS 'COPING MECHANISMS'.

YEAH. PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA BASICALLY ARE,

LOCKED AWAY FEARS AND REGRETS FROM HORRIBLE EXPERIENCES INSIDE SOMEONE'S PSYCHE.

IN THIS CASE IT IS CALLED ***DISSOCIATION.***

OR AN ACT TO AVOID SOCIAL INTERACTIONS SO THAT PEOPLE WON'T FIND OUT,

LIKE AN ACT OF 'ESCAPE' TO AVOID THE TRAUMA TRIGGER.

NEXT, THE KILLER PROCEEDS TO LOOK FOR THEIR TARGETS,

THOSE WHO SHOW AN ACT OF 'AVOIDANCE'!

WITH 'COLOR' OF THEIR CLOTHES AND ROOMS BEING THE UNPLEASANT TRIGGER FOR THEM,

THE VICTIMS IN THIS CASE, THE TARGETS, ALL HAVE 'PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA' RELATED TO THE MOTIVE.

I SEE! I AM STARTING TO SEE SOMETHING!

EH?

I'M SURE THIS ONE IS ALSO INCLUDED IN 'MURDER PROTOCOL', TAKATO, THE PUPPETEER FROM HELL GAVE TO THE KILLER!

IT'S EASIER TO HUNT TARGETS WHEN THEY ARE ALONE!

I SEE! THAT'S WHY EVEN IN THIS MURDER,

THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO ISOLATED THEMSELVES!

DAMN IT!

OH NO! THIS TIME HACHIKURA'S VITAL SIGN IS STOPPING!

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

0 0 0/0 0

S.HACHIKURA

THE-THE WARNING ALARM'S RINGING AGAIN!

!?

DID MY VITAL SIGN BRACELET COME OFF? I'M SORRY.

I WAS WASHING MY BODY USING A WET TOWEL TO LIGHTEN UP MY MOOD

AH YES, WELL, ACTUALLY...

ITSUKI HERE! ARE YOU THERE, HACHIKURA-KUN?!

HM, I WAS CHECKING EVERYONE'S VITAL SIGNS DURING EACH MURDER.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT, HAJIME-CHAN?

THANK GOODNESS, RIGHT HAJIME-CHAN?

GEEZ, GOOD THING NOTHING'S WRONG.

70 21 111/78 36.4
N.MIZUKI

74 23 105/88 36.1
I.AYASE

67 19 121/91 35.9
K.IWAKI

71 23 116/82 36.5
S.HACHIKURA

74 19 105/79 36.7
K.TSUKASA

69 18 125/91 36.3
T.HANAGATA

74 23 105/88 36.1
K.MAITANI

72 19 125/91
H.KIN

70 17 118/74 36.2
M.NANASE

76 20 130/101 36.8
Y.ITSUKI

THIS ONE IS BEFORE AYASE WAS MURDERED...

AND THIS IS FROM HANAGATA'S MURDER...

69 20 116/74 36.2
N.MIZUKI

0 0 0/0 0
I.AYASE

68 19 125/96 36.3
K.IWAKI

70 22 120/89 36.6
S.HACHIKURA

75 20 119/77 36.5
..TSUKASA

68 19 122/88 36.7
T.HANAGATA

68 19 122/88 36.7
K.MAITANI

73 18 123/87 36.4
H.KINDAICHI

69 18 119/77 36.3
M.NANASE

78 21 132/100 36.8
Y.ITSUKI

COULD IT BE...?

WAIT.

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

WEST 6

WEST 4

MYSTERY OF THE SECOND MURDER IN ***WEST 6,***

HANAGATA TAKUTO'S CLOSED ROOM MURDER TRICK!

WHY THE HURRY, KINDAICHI?

HEY, KINDAICHI!

I HAVE TO QUICKLY SOLVE THE MYSTERY!

IF THAT PERSON REALLY IS THE CULPRIT...

...

NANMAN DHABU

AH!

LET'S GO TO ***WEST 6,*** QUICK!

ALL RIGHT!

MACHIKURA WHO WAS INFORMED ABOUT THE SITUATION FIRST CAME TO TELL IWAKI ABOUT THE DEAD BODY

AFTER MAGIA-SENSEI CONTACTED IWAKI

THE ONE WHO DISCOVERED HARADATA'S DEAD BODY WAS MACHIKURA

ENTERED WEST 4 AM I RIGHT?

THEN I MAGIA-SENSEI MACHIKURA AND MIZUKI

FROM INSIDE WEST 4 WHERE AYASE-SAN'S DEAD BODY WAS FOUND

THAT'S TRUE

AND THEN MACHIKURA-SAN AND IWAKI-SAN JOINED THE GROUP FOR US

THAT'S THE SITUATION

YES AND THEN THOSE FIVE PEOPLE ENTERED WEST 6

WHERE I WAS LOCKED AND WE THEN JOINED UP

NEXT YOU GUYS UNLOCKED THE DOOR NEARBY

YEAH...

WHILE MAITANI KAEDE APPEARED AT THE MAIN HALL 10 MINUTES LATER AS PROMISED.

AND THEN MAEDA-SENSEI CALLED THE REMAINING TWO ..

BUT TSUKASA-CHAN NSISTED ON NOT GOING OUTSIDE,

FOR EXAMPLE, ACCORDING TO THIS MAP...

HOW IF THE KILLER WAS HIDING IN ONE PLACE?

WEST 4

CONNECTING HALL BETWEEN WEST 4 AND WEST 6 HAD A SMALL ROOM...

NO THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE

WEST 6

Lock!

WEST 4

Lock!

ALL DOORS CONNECTED TO 'WEST 4' EXCEPT ONE LEAD NG TO 'WEST 6' WERE LOCKED FROM INISDE

WEST 6

OF COURSE THAT TIME I, MIYUKI, ITSUKI-SAN, MAEDA-SENSEI, MIZUKI, TSUKASA AND MAITAN ...

COULDN'T HAVE DONE THE MURDER.

HIDING THERE, EVEN WHEN THE CHANCE'S THERE, IS LIKE BLATANTLY TELLING THEY ARE THE KILLER.

THAT MEANS THE KILLER WAS BETWEEN HACHIKURA AND IWAKI...?

IT'S ONLY 2 METRES IN LENGTH, IT CAN'T BE USED TO HIDE. PEOPLE PASSING WOULD HAVE SURELY NOTICED

IT'S TOO RISKY TO BE ABLE TO GET AWAY WITH IT

EVEN THOUGH THE PROBABILITY IS NOT ENTIRELY ZERO,

YEAH, LET'S...

THERE'S A DEAD BODY HERE... IT'S KINDA SCARY...

CAN WE LEAVE NOW, HAJIME-CHAN?

.....

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, KINDAICHI?

I WON'T FORGIVE THE KILLER IF THE BODY COUNT INCREASES AGAIN!

HERE TOO...

AH!

THERE'S A BUNCH OF POTATO FLOUR IN THE KITCHEN IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN

ALSO, I SAW AN ADHESIVE TAPE IN THE MAIN HALL.

OKAY! LET'S USE THEM!

A KIND OF WHITE POWDER FOR EXAMPLE...

ITSUKI-SAN, IS THERE SOMETHING WE CAN USE IN ANTLION TRENCH TO DUST FOR FINGERPRINTS?

KINDAICHI?

...

TO GET PROOF!

A

HEY, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THEM?

WHOSE FINGERPRINTS ARE YOU TRYING TO LOOK FOR?

...

AND THEN, WITH THIS ADHESIVE TAPE...

HUFF!

DURING THE PREVIOUS INVESTI-GATION...

AH! I SEE!

YOURS?

MY FINGER-PRINTS!

I ONLY DID WHAT OSSAN DID BEFORE. ISN'T IT GREAT?!

HOO! MY FINGER-PRINTS LOOK PERFECT!

WILL THIS BLACK DATA MEMO DO?

HAVE ANYTHING BLACK-COVERED, ITSUKI-SAN?

YOSH! DONE!

IT'S THIS!

NO NO! THIS IS NOT WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR...

HM... BUT HOW CAN THIS HELP YOU WITH ANYTHING?

...

.....

ポン
ポン

THIS DOOR LATCH!

THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT, ITSUKI-SAN!

HOW'S THAT, KINDAICHI?

YUP!

THAT MEANS...

HAJIME-CHAN...!

JUST AS WHAT I THOUGHT!

WITH A VERY DARING TRICK, THE KILLER, 'ANTLION', WAS ABLE TO MAKE SOMETHING IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE!

ALL THE MYSTERIES,

HAVE BEEN SOLVED!

HUFF, FINALLY, THE SECOND DAY...

HOW LONG WILL THAT TSUKASA GIRL KEEP ISOLATING HERSELF?

...

I'M SORRY, I'M NOT FEELING WELL, CAN I GO FIRST?

DON'T LOCK THE DOOR JUST YET! OR I CAN'T GO TO MY ROOM!

FINE.

I'LL ALSO GO BACK TO MY ROOM.

THANKS FOR THE FOOD.

...

I KNOW!

ガチャ

ガチャン

THIS ONE'S ALSO LOCKED ...

WEST 4

IT LOOKS LIKE I'M THE LAST...

Lock!

Lock!

WEST 4

5

WEST 6

Lock!

2

X

NOBODY CAN COME CLOSE TO ME ANYMORE!

WON'T BE ABLE TO ENTER THIS PLACE!

WITH THIS, EVERYONE FROM EAST AND WEST SECTION,

ONE MORE LEFT, THE ONE IN *WEST 6* ...

ガチャ

IF THE DOOR CONNECTED TO KINDAICHI'S ROOM WAS ALSO LOCKED,

I WILL DEFINITELY BE THE NEXT TARGET!

IF THEY ARE KILLED BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED TO KUSANAGI

IN A PLACE LIKE THIS

I DON'T WANT TO DIE

HUFF!

FINALLY, I CAN SLEEP PEACEFULLY

ガチャ

!?

!?

ANTLION!

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!

I DID SOMETHING EXACTLY LIKE WHAT YOU JUST DID!

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TALK YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS!

!!

THE KILLER, *ANTLION!*

YOU...!

H-HOW DID YOU GET HERE?!

THE BIGGEST TRAP LAID IN ANTLION TRENCH, THE KILLER'S IDENTITY IN FRONT OF HIM IS...?

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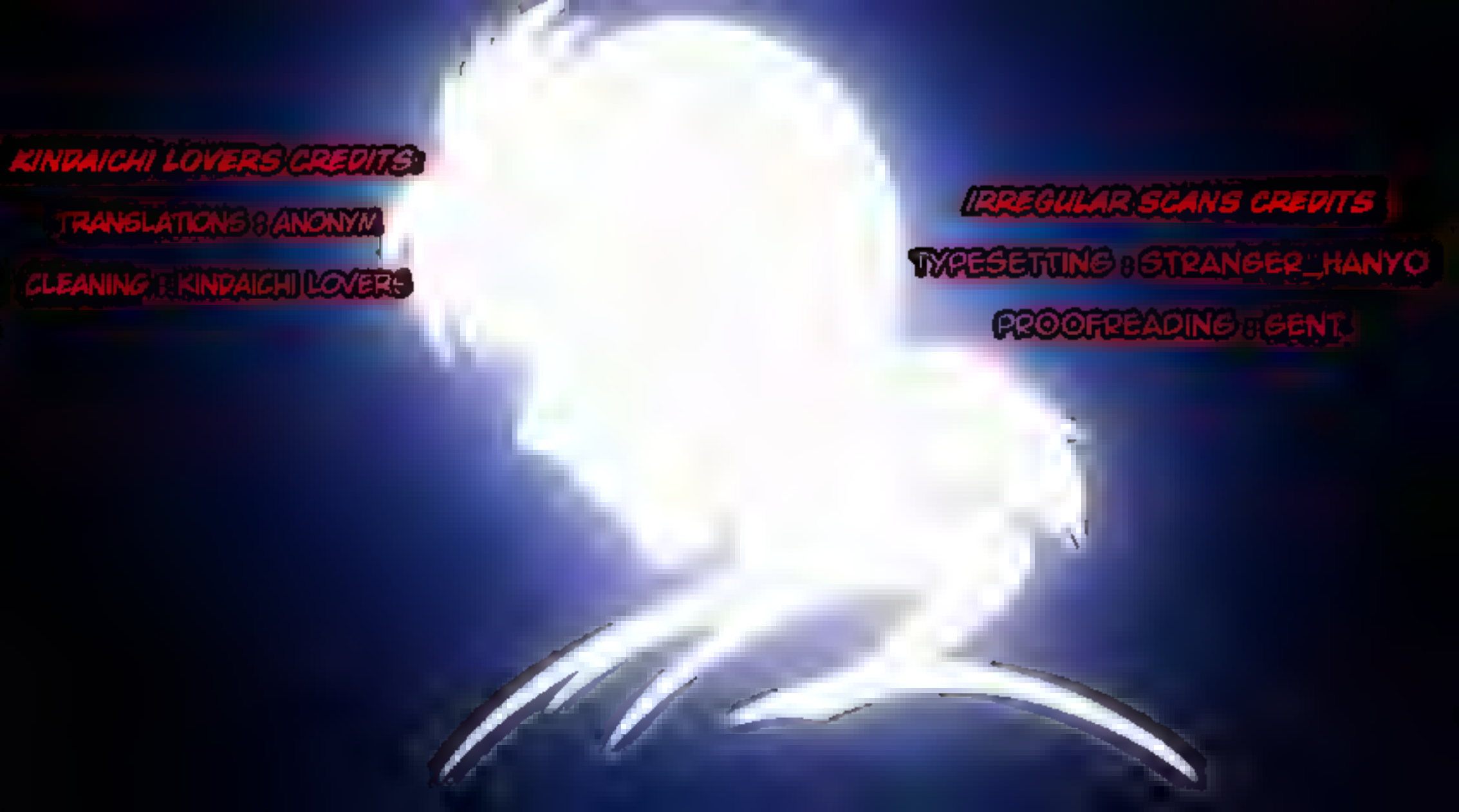
KINDAICHI LOVERS CREDITS:
TRANSLATIONS : ANONYM
CLEANING : KINDAICHI LOVERS
IRREGULAR SCANS CREDITS
TYPESETTING : STRANGER_HANYO
PROOFREADING : GENT

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE SHOCKED BY THIS!

...

ANTLION TRENCH MURDER CASE- FILE 8

蟻地獄壕殺人事件 第8話

WHY?

BECAUSE I SHOULD HAVE BEEN INSIDE THE ROOM WHICH USED TO BE HACHIMURA'S ROOM!

WEST 6

TACTICAL

THAT'S NATURAL!

X

X

YOU EVEN CHECKED THEM YOURSELF BEFORE MURDERING BECAUSE YOU'RE VERY CAUTIOUS, RIGHT?

Lock!

WEST 4

Lock!

NOT ONLY THAT!

THE DOOR CONNECTING MAIN HALL WITH ***WEST 6*** WAS ALSO LOCKED.

WEST 6

Lock!

THAT'S THE SAME WITH THE ONLY DOOR ITSUKI-SAN CAN ACCESS TO ***WEST 4.***

WHEN YOU WAITED FOR YOUR CHANCE TO KILL IWAKI IN FRONT OF HIS ROOM,

I HAD ALREADY UNLOCKED THE LATCH, THAT'S WHY...

I-ITSUKI YOUSUKE?!

IT'S JUST LIKE WHAT YOU SAID, KINDAICHI!

EVERYONE, COME HERE!

YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY ANYMORE!

EVERYONE INCLUDING ITSUKI-SAN IS ALREADY HERE,

I...
THAT...

IF IWAKI, THE TARGET HIMSELF, TELLS US EVERYTHING?

キ!!

HAJIME-CHAN, WHY DID THE KILLER...

WELL, WON'T IT BE FASTER,

NO ONE HERE WAS SELECTED AS SAMPLE DIRECTLY...

EXCEPT PERHAPS THOSE RECOMMENDED BY ITSUKI-KUN.

THAT I AGREED TO CONDUCT THIS RESEARCH BY THE REQUEST OF AN ANONYMOUS INSTITUTION WITH UNCLEAR BACKGROUND,

I'VE ALREADY TOLD ITSUKI-KUN.

MAEDA-SENSEI!

WAIT A MINUTE, KINDAICHI-KUN!

HOW DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS?

THE RESULT WAS USED TO THEN SELECT THE PARTICIPANTS.

I ONLY CONDUCTED THE PSYCHOLOGY TEST GIVEN BY THAT ORGAN ZATION.

T-THAT'S..

THAT MEANS THE INSTITUTION WAS THE ONE WHO DETERMINED THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE END, AM I RIGHT?

NO, I DIDN'T. I ONLY HANDED THE RESULT TO THAT INSTITUTION!

DID YOU HAVE A HAND N SELECTING THE PARTICIPANTS?

WHAT?!

TO CHOOSE EVERYONE HERE!

THE PSYCHOLOGY TEST IS NOTHING MORE THAN A RUSE,

IN THE END, ONLY FOUR PEOPLE REMAINED: MIZUKI-KUN, TSUKASA-CHAN, KINDAICHI AND NANASE-KUN!

YOU'RE RIGHT! I GATHERED A LOT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACQUAINTANCES BUT THEY FAILED ONE BY ONE BECAUSE OF THE TEST!

THERE'S A CHANCE THAT ITSUKI-SAN MIGHT ASK FOR OTHER'S HELP,

BUT ALMOST ALL OF THEM "FAILED" BECAUSE OF THE PSYCHOLOGY TEST.

FIRST, ABOUT ME AND MIYUKI,

THEY HAD ALREADY PREDICTED THAT ITSUKI-SAN WOULD ASK FOR OUR HELP.

THE ORGANIZATION WANTED MORE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AS SAMPLE S NCE THEY'VE PREPARED THE DAILY PAYMENT AND A...

THEY ALSO SUGGESTED ME TO INCLUDE THIS AS AN EXTRA CREDIT FOR THOSE ACCEPTED BY THE UNIVERSITY'S APPROVAL.

I ALSO RECRUITED OTHER STUDENTS WHO TAKE MY CLASS.

AS YOU KNOW, THEY ARE STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED MY SEM.NAR.

THEN, HOW ABOUT THE REMAINING FIVE, MAEDA-SENSEI?

I WI... EXPLAIN THESE FOUR PEOPLE'S ROLE IN THIS CASE LATER.

THOSE ACCEPTED WERE FIVE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS PRESENT IN THIS FACILITY.

AFTER KNOWING TH S, APPLICATIONS FROM MY STUDENTS INCREASED RAPIDLY.

AND BROUGHT THEM HERE INTO ANTLION TRENCH, A STAGE PREPARED FOR THIS MURDER CASE.

THE K LLER CHOSE H S TARGETS WITH THAT PSYCHOLOGY TEST,

WITH THAT MUCH APPEALING BENEFITS,

STUDENTS WILL SURELY APPLY! NO ONE WILL REFUSE!

NOT ONLY THAT,

WHILE HIDING THE FACT THAT IT WAS A PSYCHOLOGICAL TRICK!

TO CONVINCE PEOPLE THAT OUR INCLUSION WAS RANDOMIZED

THEY INTENTIONALLY MADE THE SELECTION LOOK COMPLICATED,

...

ALL OF THEM WERE THE KILLER'S 'PROCEDURES' FOR THE CRIME!

A BIZZARE ARCHITECTURE WITH SEEMINGLY MEANINGLESS LOCKS HERE AND THERE,

AN ORDER TO WEAR CLOTHING WITH DIFFERENT COLORS,

MURDER PROTOCOL?

COMPONENTS OF A ***MURDER PROTOCOL*** THEY CREATED!

SO THAT THEY COULD HAVE AN ALIBI AS WELL AND CUNNINGLY CONTROL EVERYONE'S MOVEMENT. THAT'S THE REASON BEHIND THIS PROTOCOL.

THEY MANAGED TO KNOW OUR PERSONALITIES, CURRENT SITUATIONS AND POSSIBLE PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMAS.

EXACTLY. TAKING ADVANTAGES OF PSYCHOTESTS APPLICANTS DID,

HOLD ON!

...

...

TSUKASA-CHAN FOR EXAMPLE,

YOU'RE AN INTROVERTED, SHUT-IN PERSON, RIGHT?

Y-YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT..

YEAH, PROBABLY.

MIZUKI!

DOES THAT MEAN I WAS ALSO TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF, BY THIS 'PROTOCOL'?

EH? EVEN THAT FAR AHEAD?

THAT WAS ALSO PLANNED IN THEIR 'PROTOCOL'.

NOT TAKING A STEP OUTSIDE, EVEN ONCE.

THAT'S WHY YOU IMMEDIATELY LOCKED YOURSELF IN YOUR ROOM AFTER A MURDER HAPPENED.

WE WERE ENCOURAGED TO ACT ALONE, NOT GROUPING WITH EACH OTHER.

THIS ACTION AIMED AT THE OPPOSITE EFFECT.

ATTIRE WITH SAME DESIGN AND COLORS, FOR EXAMPLE SCHOOL UNIFORMS

WERE CREATED TO INCREASE SENSE OF BELONGING AND UNITY, RIGHT?

THEY PREPARED CLOTHES WITH DIFFERENT COLORS,

IN ORDER TO PREVENT 'GROUP' FORMATION AMONG US.

IS WHEN SUSPECTS START TO ACT IN GROUPS.

DEFINITELY

SINCE THE KILLER'S MAIN PROBLEM,

PEOPLE TEND TO KEEP A DISTANCE WITH OTHERS WHO LOOK DIFFERENT IN THEIR MINDS.

I SEE, THIS IS THE OPPOSITE EFFECT OF UNIFORMS IN PSYCHOLOGY.

THE COLORS EVERYONE HAVE ACTS AS A TRIGGER FOR INDIVIDUAL TRAUMA.

THIS IS ONE OF THE STRATEGIES!

AND SCATTERED IN DIFFERENT PLACES BECAUSE OF THIS.

WE WERE UNCONSCIOUSLY MADE TO STAY ALONE.

WITH A PSYCHOLOGY EXPERIMENT AS FRONT, THEY SUCCEEDED IN SOLATING EACH OF US,

EVERYONE'S ACTIONS AND THIS FRONT WOULDN'T BE AFFECTED MUCH EVEN WHEN THE MURDER HAPPENED.

IT'S HIGHLY LIKELY THAT THEY WOULD LOCK THEMSELVES UP.

THAT'S RIGHT. PEOPLE UNCONSCIOUSLY DON'T WANT OTHERS TO KNOW WHAT'S INSIDE THEIR MINDS.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, MAEDA-SENSEI?

PEOPLE WHO WERE REMINDED OF UNPLEASANT MEMORIES OR PAST SINS, WILL MOST LIKELY TRY TO AVOID OTHER'S ATTRACTIONS.

AM I RIGHT?

.....

ALL THAT'S LEFT WAS TO SET THE MURDER PLAN IN MOTION.

WITH PREPARATIONS FOR ACTORS AND STAGES COMPLETED,

!!

MAITANI-SAN?

MAITANI KAEDE,

YOU'RE THE CULPRIT BEHIND THIS HORRIBLE MURDER CASE,

THE ANTLION!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WHA-

I'M HERE BECAUSE I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS I WANTED TO ASK TO IWAK-SENPA.

THIS IS FOR SELF-DEFENSE, SENPA!!

T-THEN WHY DID YOU BRING THAT THING?

DID YOU WANT TO KILL ME WITH THAT?

WHAT? HELL NO!

I DON'T HAVE A REASON TO KILL THEM!

WE WERE THE MEMBERS OF THE SAME CIRCLE.

WHY DID I HAVE TO KILL AYASE-SENPA AND HANAGATA-KUN?

THEN HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO COME HERE, MAITAN-SAN?

REALLY?

I'M THE ONE WHO LOCKED IT!

T-THAT'S RIGHT!

Lock!

WEST 4

WAS SUPPOSED TO BE LOCKED FROM INSIDE BY IWAKI WHEN HE HEADED BACK TO HIS ROOM!

THE DOOR CONNECTING ***WEST 4*** WITH YOUR ROOM,

JUST AS KINDAICH-KUN INSTRUCTED...

I HAD TO LOCK THE DOOR AND SAY IT LOUD!

.....!

FRANKLY, THE DOOR WAS NOT LOCKED SO I WAS ABLE TO COME HERE.

IT'S BEACUSE YOU THOUGHT IT WAS LOCKED WHILE ACTUALLY NOT, PERHAPS?

THE DOOR... WAS NOT REALLY LOCKED, YOU KNOW

YES, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO GO TO ***WEST 6***, AND KILL HANAGATA-KUN!

I COULDN'T SIMPLY ENTER ***WEST 6*** FROM MY ROOM BECAUSE ***WEST 4*** WAS SEALED!

WEST 4 WAS LOCKED TIGHTLY FROM THE INSIDE, NO?

BUT IT'S DIFFERENT FROM WHEN HANAGATA-KUN WAS KILLED, RIGHT?

.....

SOLVING THIS MURDER CASE LIES IN AYASE IZUMI'S MURDER,

THE MURDER WHERE SHE WAS FOUND N ***WEST 4,***

HAD A LOT OF UNUSUAL THINGS THAT I HAD TO FIND THE ANSWER TO.

EH?

YOU CAN!

TOO BAD, BECAUSE ACTUALLY,

Y-YES. NO MISTAKING IT.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, MAEDA-SENSEI?

FIFTEEN MINUTES AFTER AYASE IZUMI'S VITAL SIGN STOPPED.

I RECEIVED THE NOTICE OF THE FIRST MURDER AROUND 10:45,

HOWEVER, THE DOOR CONNECTING TO THE MAIN HALL AND WEST SECTOR WAS LOCKED FROM INSIDE.

Lock!

NEXT, MAEDA-SENSEI WENT TO THE MAIN HALL, LOOKING FOR HER IN THE WEST SECTION.

HE HURRIEDLY WENT TO HER EMPTY ROOM.

AFTER MAEDA-SENSE SAW AYASE'S VITAL SIGNS STOPPED,

HE APPEARED WITH A PALE FACE, SAYING HE FOUND A DEAD BODY.

...

ITSUKI-SAN WAS ALSO CONTACTED BEFOREHAND TO OPEN THE DOOR.

MAEDA-SENSEI THEN PROCEEDED TO CALL ME AND MIYUKI AND WENT BACK TO THE MAIN HALL.

ガチャ ガチャ

YEAH.

THAT MEANS IT WAS NOT A CLOSED ROOM MURDER!

YOU DID SHOW US IT COULD BE LOCKED FROM OUTSIDE USING A FLOSS, RIGHT?

THAT'S TRUE, BUT...

!?

WAS A PSYCHOLOGICAL TRICK!

HOWEVER, THAT TOO,

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH,

I THOUGHT, *WHY DID THE KILLER LOCK THE DOOR USING THAT KIND OF TRICK?*

AND BECAME A LITTLE AFRAID.

THE PROBLEM IS, DID EVERYONE THINK LIKE THAT?

WE FIRST ASSUMED THAT THE MURDERER WAS SOMEONE IN WEST SECTOR BECAUSE THE DOOR WAS LOCKED.

AFTER I SOLVED THE TRICK, EVERYONE HAD THE SAME CHANCE OF BEING A CULPRIT.

I THOUGHT SO TOO!

SO, I THOUGHT THAT THE KILLER WAS SOMEONE IN THE EAST SECTOR.

IT LOOKED LIKE THE TRICK WAS USED TO AVERT SUSPICION FROM THE KILLER.

THE KILLER WANTED US TO HAVE!

THAT'S THE THINKING PROCESS,

OF COURSE I DIDN'T KNOW ANY OF THEM.

THE THING IS, EVERYONE EXCEPT MAEDA-SENSE ARE NOT FROM OUR UNIVERSITY.

OR ELSE THEIR TARGETS WOULD HAVE BECOME MUCH MORE AWARE!

THEY DIDN'T LET THEIR TARGETS REALIZE THE TRUE MOTIVE BEHIND THIS MURDER!

THIS WAS MADE TO SMOOTH THINGS OVER IN HANAGATA'S MURDER.

WHAT I WANT TO SAY ABOUT THE FAKE TRICK IS,

I WAS BROUGHT HERE TO SOLVE IT, WHICH WAS BENEFICIAL FOR THE KILLER!

WHEN THE MURDER WAS COMMITTED IN A PLACE THEY COULDN'T ENTER,

THEY WERE FREED FROM SUSPICIONS, BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY!

WHERE ARE YOU, TAKATO?!

IF HE'S HERE, THEN I HAVE TO FIND HIM!!

I HAVE TO UNMASK HIM!!

WHOM ARE YOU DISGUISED AS?!

TAKATO YOICHI??

I COULDN'T GO TO **WEST 6** WHERE THE MURDER TOOK PLACE THAT TIME!

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO KILL HANAGATA-KUN!

JUST GO TO THE MAIN POINT!

CUT IT OUT ALREADY!

WHAT?! IN THEIR OWN ROOMS?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

YOU PUT THEIR DEAD BODIES IN **WEST 4** AND **WEST 6** ON PURPOSE!

HE AND AYASE, THE FIRST VICTIM WERE KILLED IN THEIR OWN ROOMS!

HE WASN'T KILLED IN **WEST 6** FROM THE START!

HUH?

IT'S INDEED TAXING!

CORRECT!

DRAGGING A BODY THAT FAR WOULD HAVE BEEN TAXING!

ESPECIALLY FOR AYASE IZUMI, WHO WAS IN THE EAST SECTOR!

WHY DID SHE DO SOMETHING THAT BOTHER-SOME?

!?

...

I REALIZED THE TRUTH IN THIS MURDER!

WHEN I TRIED TO LOOK FOR THE ***REASON*** BEHIND IT,

AND NOW I WILL EXPLAIN THE ***REASON***,

AS WELL AS THIS CUNNING ***MURDER PROTOCOL***,

CREATED BY THE ***ANTLION***, WHO KILLED TWO PEOPLE IN THIS MAZE-LIKE NEST!

THE STORY BEHIND THE RAGING MURDEROUS INTENTIONS AND TRAPS IN THIS SAND PRISON WILL SOON BE REVEALED!

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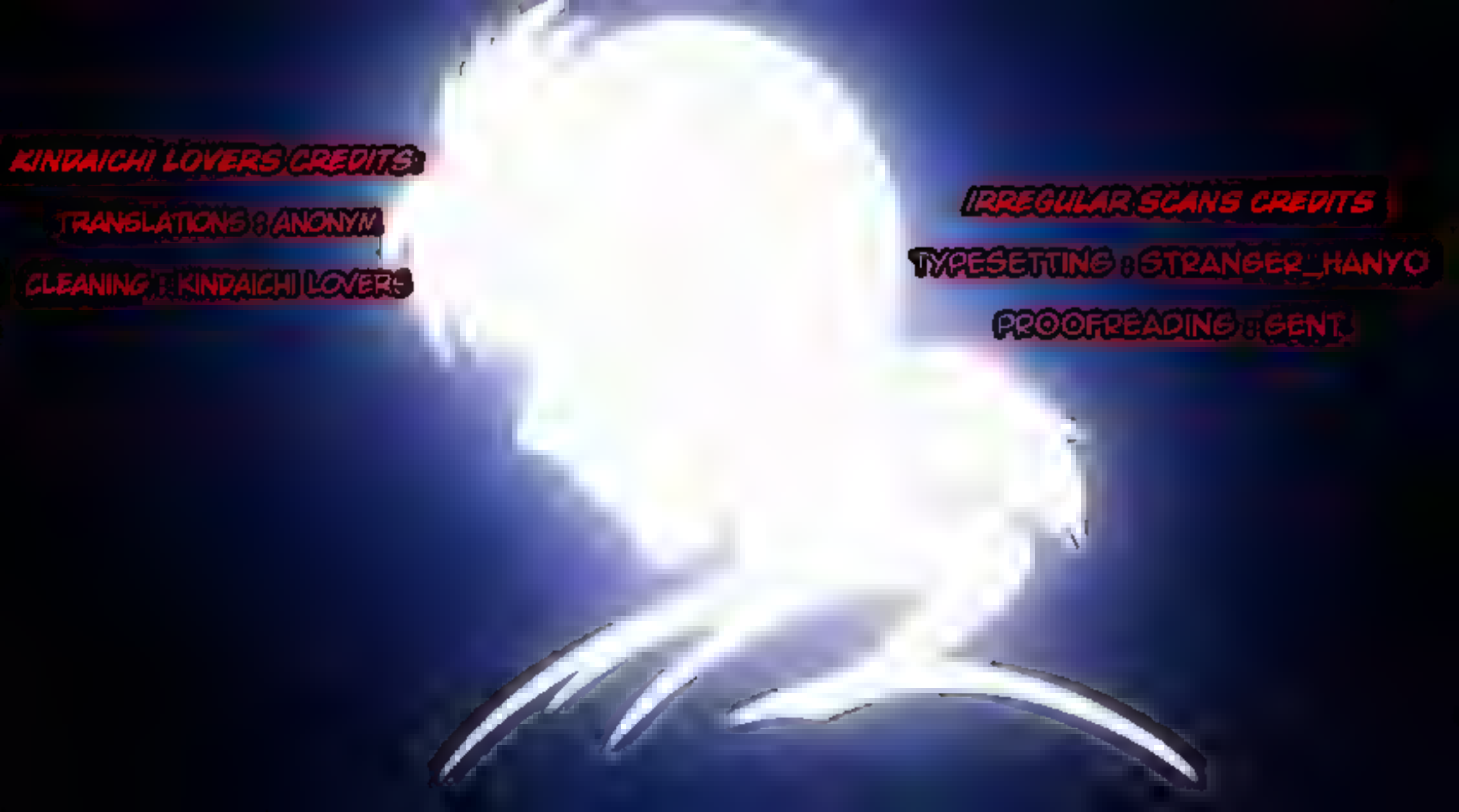
KINDAICHI LOVERS CREDITS:
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IRREGULAR SCANS CREDITS
TYPESETTING : STRANGER_HANYO
PROOFREADING : GENT

MOVING THE DEAD BODY WAS ALSO PART OF HER 'MURDER PROTOCOL'?

MURDER PROTOCOL?

. . . .

!!

THE IDENTITY OF THE 'ANTLION' IS FINALLY REVEALED!
HER IRONTIGHT ALIBI WILL SOON CRUMBLE!

ANTLION TRENCH MURDER CASE - FILE 9

蟻地獄壕殺人事件 第9話

AYASE'S VITAL SIGN STOPPED LAST NIGHT,

BETWEEN 10:26 AND 10:30

IT'S WEIRD IF THEY WERE KILLED IN THEIR OWN ROOMS.

H-HOLD ON, KINDAICHI-KUN!

MAEDA-SENSEI?

AND WAS MOVED INTO 'WEST 4' NOT TEN MINUTES LATER WHEN WE FOUND HER BODY.

THAT MEANS SHE WAS KILLED IN THAT 5-MINUTE TIME GAP,

ISN'T IT A BIT TOO MUCH TO ASSUME THAT A GIRL CAN DRAG A BODY THAT FAST?

NOT TO MENTION THE PROBABILITY OF PASSING US ALONG THE WAY.

EAST 1

EAST 3

WEST 4

WEST 1

AND 'WEST 4' WAS QUITE FAR!

THE DISTANCE BETWEEN HER ROOM IN THE EAST SECTOR,

HUH! OH ALL RIGHT!

MIYUKI! GIVE ME YOUR RIGHT HAND!

THE TRICK IS SIMPLE!

EH? TRICK?

THE KILLER USED THE 5-MINUTE GAP EFFECTIVELY.

IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THIS VITAL-SIGN-DETECTING WRISTBAND...

SENT DATA TO THE MAIN COMPUTER IN EVERY 5 MINUTES, RIGHT?

THAT'S RIGHT.

AND PUT IT ON HER LEFT WRIST!

QUICKLY TOOK OFF THE WRISTBAND

SHE KILLED HER TARGET,

AND DURING THE SAME TIME INTERVAL,

WHAT?!

LIKE THIS!

IN OTHER WORDS THE DATA CAN BE FALSIFIED BY THIS METHOD!

THIS WILL MAKE A DEAD PERSON LOOK ALIVE.

AND DATA WILL BE CONTINUOUSLY SENT TO THE MAIN COMPUTER.

NO ABNORMALITY WILL BE DETECTED THIS WAY

...

ISN'T THAT SO, MAITAN?

YES. PROBABLY SHE WAS KILLED 30 MINUTES PRIOR!

I SEE, WE'VE BEEN HAD!

IN CONCLUSION, BEFORE I REALIZED THIS, AYASE-KUN HAD ALREADY...

WHY DID SHE EVEN BOTHER TO DO THAT?

BUT WHY?

...

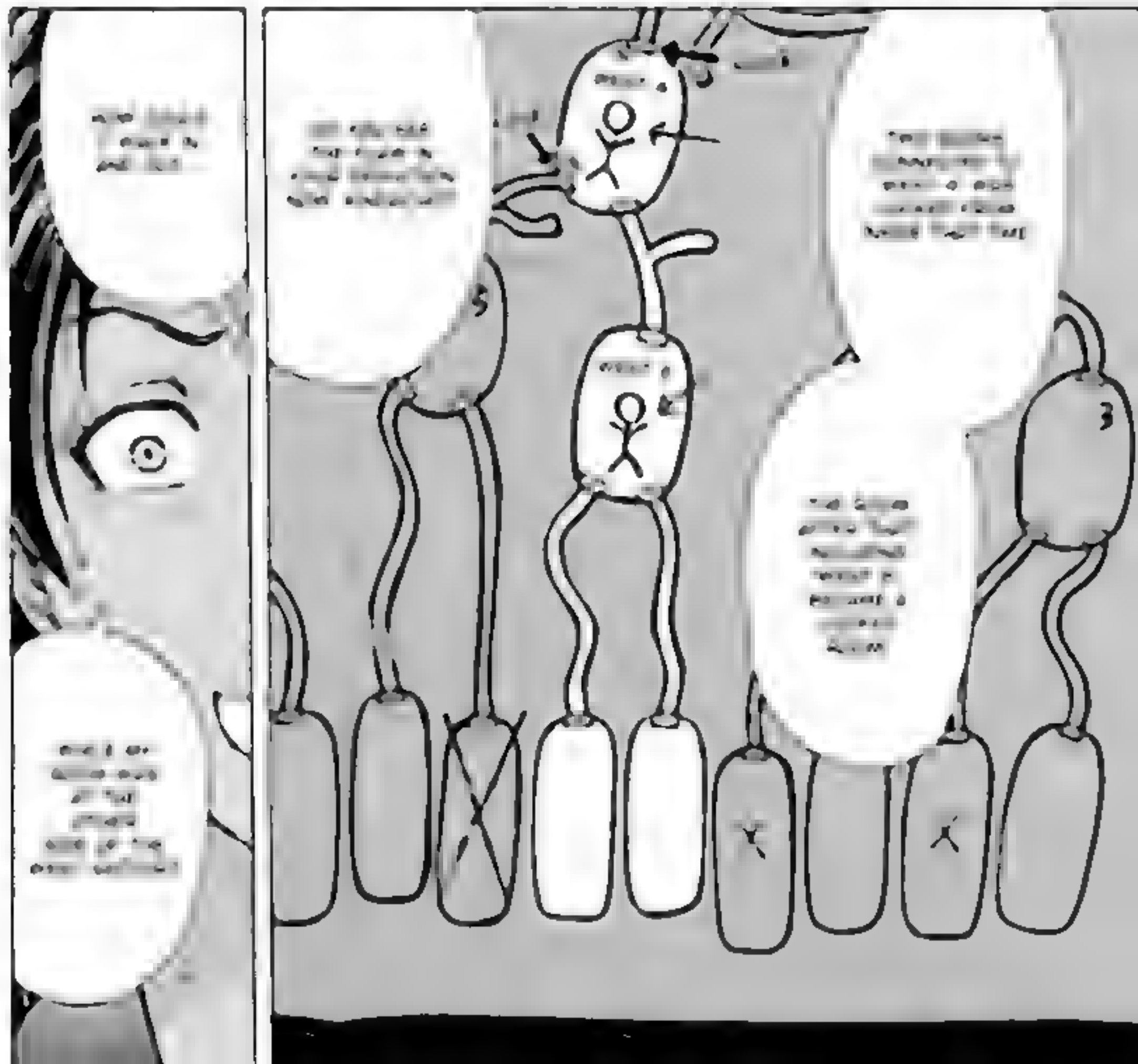
NO WAY...!

HUH?

BECAUSE THAT'S ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT 'PROCEDURE' SHE HAD TO DO.

IN ORDER TO MAKE THE IMPOSSIBLE CRIME POSSIBLE!

THE MOST CRUCIAL PROTOCOL,



YOU DIDN'T WALK IN OR OUT!

YOU WERE THERE THE ENTIRE TIME!

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NO, NOT THERE...

HOWEVER, SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN FOUND OUT IMMEDIATELY.

WELL YOU CAN INCLUDE THE NICHE BETWEEN 'WEST 4' AND 'WEST 6' IF YOU INSIST.

EH? MAITANI WAS HERE THE ENTIRE TIME?

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THERE'S NO PLACE SHE COULD USE TO HIDE!

HUH?

SHE WAS IN PLAIN SIGHT THE ENTIRE TIME!

THE PLACE WHERE SHE HID HERSELF WAS VERY RISKY

TO BE THE CORPSE OF AYASE IZUMI, THE FIRST VICTIM!

THAT'S RIGHT, SHE PRETENDED...

WHAT?!

FEW PEOPLE WANTED TO STAY AND SEE A DEAD BODY.

MOREOVER, A NEW DEAD BODY WAS FOUND AHEAD, SO EVERYBODY WAS FOCUSED THERE!

FORTU-NATELY FOR YOU,

HER BODY WAS COVERED BY A BEIGE BLANKET FROM HER ROOM WHICH MADE THINGS EASIER!

....

THE ONLY THING YOU NEED TO PASS OFF AS HER WAS TO WEAR A BEIGE CLOTH,

AND A WIG YOU'D ALREADY PREPARED BEFOREHAND!

YOUR BUILD IS NOT THAT DIFFERENT FROM AYASE IZUMI, MAITANI!

WAAAH!

HANAGATA! NO WAY!

BACK THEN,

MAEDA-SENSEI, THROUGH HERE PLEASE

thump!

thump!

WHAT'S HAPPENED K NDAICHI?

ITSUKI-SAN!

ドタドタドタ

ドタドタドタ

W-WE'LL TALK LATER. LET'S GO.

ナナ

wriggle wriggle

AND THEN DRAGGED AYASE'S REAL BODY, WHICH YOU HAD HIDDEN...

IN A NICHE BETWEEN WEST 1 AND MAIN HALL.

PHEW

YOUR DISGUISE WORKED. AFTER EVERYONE LEFT THE ROOM, YOU HEADED TOWARDS MAIN HALL THROUGH 'WEST 4'.

IN ORDER TO ENABLE YOU TO DISGUISE AS A DEAD BODY FOR SOME TIME.

THE BIGGEST REASON IN ASSIGNING US TO DIFFERENT COLORS,

WAS TO MAKE US THINK THAT THE COLOR REPRESENTED THE PERSON WEARING IT...

THE SAME THING IN KILLING YOUR LAST TARGET, IWAKI, RIGHT?

YOU ALSO ATTEMPTED,

.....

THAT'S WHY YOU DISGUISED YOURSELF AS AYASE'S BODY AGAIN...

AND PLANNED TO KILL HIM FROM INSIDE THE LOCKED ROOM.

...

I MIGHT HAVE ASKED HIM FOR HELP,

BUT WHETHER I ASKED OR NOT, IWAKI WHO WAS BEING CAUTIOUS WOULD LOCK THE DOOR HIMSELF ANYWAY, AND THAT WAS IN YOUR PLAN!

SINCE HIS FRIENDS WERE KILLED ONE BY ONE,

IWAKI WOULD OF COURSE REALIZE HE WAS IN DANGER.

...

THE ONLY THING LEFT IS TO LOCK THE DOOR TO KINDAICHI'S ROOM...

WITH THIS, EVERYONE FROM EAST SECTOR,

AND THE OTHERS FROM WEST SECTOR COULDN'T COME IN!

WHEW!

...

I'LL KILL YOU!

...

ぐぃぐぃ

I ALSO DID WHAT YOU DID...

...

TO AMBUSH YOU IN 'WEST 6'!

BY PRETENDING TO BE HANAGATA'S DEAD BODY!

GO

GO

GO

!!

AND PLANNING ALL THE CRIMES IN HIS ROOM?

I'LL BE PLANNING TO KILL HIM BY MAKING A SUICIDE

LET'S PUT ASIDE WHAT-EVER'S HAPPENED FOR NOW

BUT ANOTHER RUN

WHAT A HORRIBLE PLAN

BECAUSE THE FIRST ONE TO REALIZE SOMETHING'S WRONG,

WOULD BE YOU, WHO CHECKED ON EVERYONE'S VITAL SIGNS!

YES, BUT ..

THAT WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED MAEDA-SENSE!

TO FIND HANAGATA-KUN'S DEAD BODY, EVERYONE MUST PASS 'WEST 4'...

SHE COULD HAVE BEEN FOUND OUT WHEN SHE WAS DRAGGING A DEAD BODY, AND THAT'S TOO RISKY!

WEST 4

WEST 3

WEST 6

WEST 2

AFTER KNOWING BOTH MAEDA-SENSEI AND ITSUKI-SAN WERE LOCKED OUT...

YOU WOULD TRY TO CALL ME NEXT.

.....!?

WILL MOST LIKELY BE ITSUKI-SAN, THE PERSON HELPING IN THIS RESEARCH AND AS THE PERSON STAYING NEAR HANAGATA'S ROOM!

THE FIRST ONE YOU WILL CONTACT,

WHEN WE CALLED PEOPLE TO OPEN THE LOCK HERE AND THERE,

EVERYONE, GET IT?

AH!

WE WERE MADE TO GATHER IN ONE GROUP!

MAIN HALL

Lock!

Lock!

Lock!

Lock!

4

1

4

5

6

2

3

6

3

AS IF CONTROLLED BY A MARIONETTE GUIDING US IN FINDING THE DEAD BODY.

THE REASON BEHIND SEEMINGLY RANDOM LOCKED DOORS,

WERE TO GATHER US IN ONE BIG GROUP.

EXCEPT FOR ONE PERSON.

JUST LIKE PLANNED, EVERYONE WALKED IN ONE BIG GROUP

...

WHAT THE...

AS A LONER WHO DOESN'T GO OUT OF THE ROOM OFTEN.

OF COURSE TSUKASA-SAN HAD A ROLE IN THIS...

EH? ME?

THAT PERSON IS TSUKASA-SAN WHO WAS ALONE IN HER ROOM.

THERE'S A CHANCE SHE'D GO OUT FOR SOME REASON OR THE OTHER.

HOWEVER, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A 'HUMAN' HERE

AND YOU NEED A LONER NEAR YOUR ROOM.

MAITANI NEEDED TO BE IN AND OUT OF HER ROOM IN THIS MURDER PLAN

MIYUKI AND I INVESTIGATED EVERY PART OF THIS BUILDING.

YES. ACTUALLY, AFTER AYASE DIED,

'INSURANCE'!

SHE PREPARED AN *INSURANCE.*

THAT'S WHY IN HANAGATA'S MURDER,

I, ON A WHIM,

TOUCHED THE KNOB AND LATCH HANDLE.

WE FOUND THE DOOR TO BE LOCKED FROM INSIDE.

WEST 2

WE ALSO WENT IN FRONT OF A DOOR CONNECTING 'WEST 2' AND TSUKASA-SAN'S ROOM...

カチャ

カチャ

HOWEVER, THE ONE LEFT ON THE LATCH HANDLE...

THE FINGERPRINTS WERE CLEAR, RIGHT?

WHEN HOLDING THE DOORKNOB,

THIS IS MY FINGERPRINT.

JUST LIKE WHAT MAITANI IS WEARING RIGHT NOW!

AS IF IT WAS TOUCHED BY LATEX GLOVES,

CORRECT! FOR SOME REASON, IT WAS PARTIALLY ERASED!

IT WAS ERASED BY SOMETHING CIRCULAR!

AH!

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE!

AND THE ONE WHO COULD'VE DONE THIS WAS MAITANI, THE ONE STAYING NEAR TSUKASA-SAN'S ROOM AND THE PROTOCOL EXECUTOR, RIGHT?

...

TSUKASA-SAN MUST'N'T GET OUT OF THE ROOM FOR THE CRIME TO WORK!

HMM..

...

HOWEVER, YOU HAVEN'T FOUND THE CONCRETE EVIDENCE YET, RIGHT KINDAICHI-KUN?

LOOKS LIKE THE 'ANTLION' IS GETTING CORNERED,

DO YOU EVEN HAVE A CONCRETE PROOF TO BACK YOU UP?

THAT'S NOT THE EVIDENCE THAT I'VE KILLED THEM.

EVERYTHING YOU'VE SAID UNTIL NOW IS ONLY BASELESS THEORY AT BEST.

THAT CAN'T BE USED AS EVIDENCE.

UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, I HAVE!

IRONICALLY, THIS CONCRETE PROOF

COMES FROM THE MURDER PROTOCOL ITSELF!

EH?

THE LAST PROOF THAT WILL LEAD TO HER DOWNFALL IS...?

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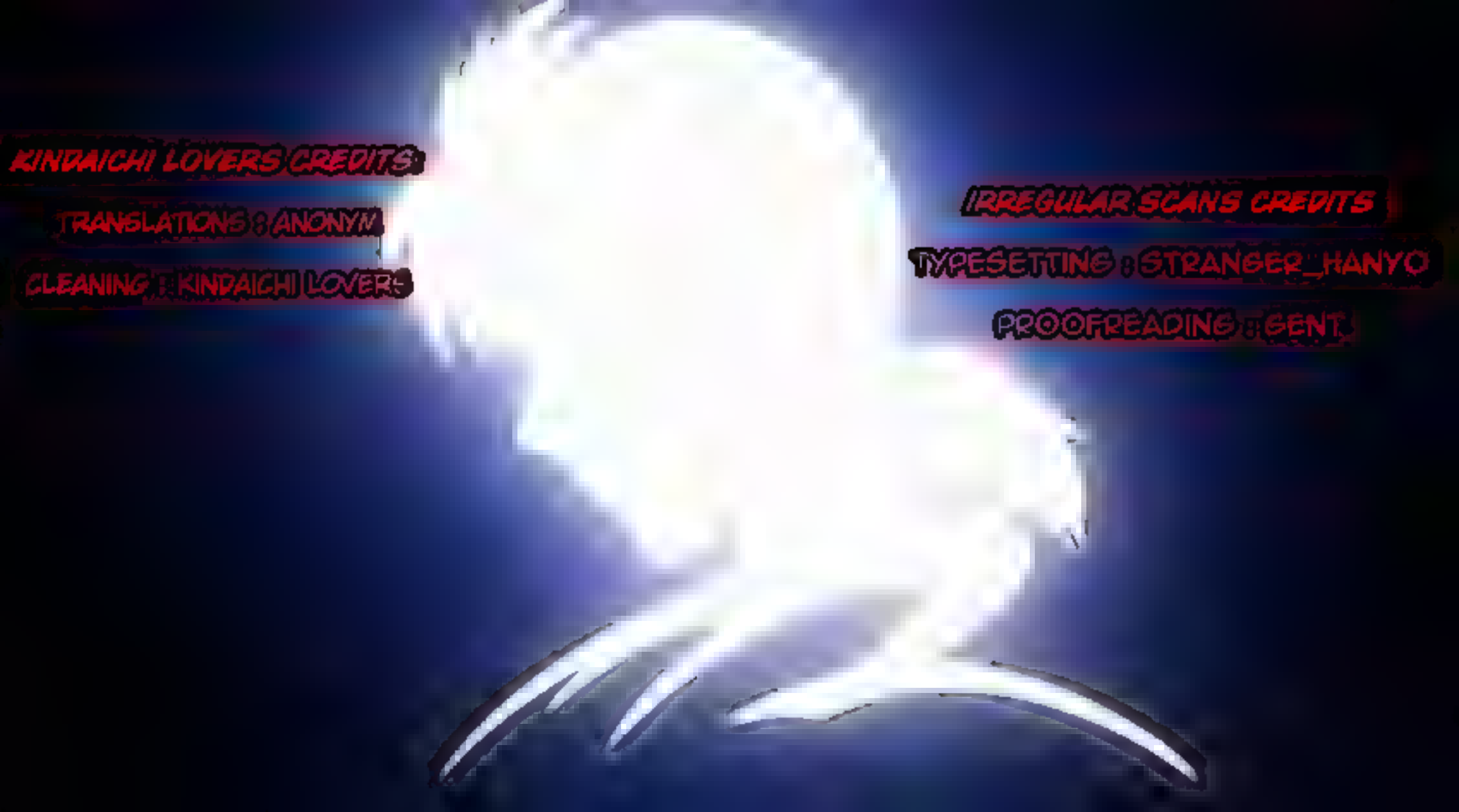
KINDAICHI LOVERS CREDITS:
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I COULD FIND AN UNDENIABLE, CONCRETE PROOF!

FROM THE *PROTOCOL* THE KILLER CREATED,

THE PROOF HAJIME WILL USE TO TAKE 'ANTLION' DOWN IS...?

THE PROOF THAT SHOWS YOU'RE THE KILLER!

...

ANTLION TRENCH MURDER CASE - PART 10

YOURS, HOWEVER, IS PROBABLY DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE ELSE'S.

OR PERHAPS YOU USED A WIRELESS EXTENSION PHONE LIKE MAEDA-SENSEI USES?

FOR EXAMPLE, THE INTERPHONE INSTALLED IN PEOPLE'S ROOM WERE CONNECTED BY CABLE TO THE MAIN HALL.

MAITANI! TO ENABLE YOURSELF FOR MORE MOVEMENT DURING THE MURDER,

YOU'D PREPARED A LOT OF TRICKS, RIGHT?

WHAT?

TO KNOW OF OUR MOVEMENTS?

OR, YOU ALSO WIRETAPPED OUR CONVERSATIONS ON THE PHONE,

NO! YOU DIDN'T NEED THEM ANYMORE SO YOU'VE PROBABLY ALREADY THROWN THEM AWAY.

HUH?

ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE WIRETAP OR WIRELESS PHONE IS YOUR EVIDENCE?

THE WRISTBAND!

THE EVIDENCE IS THIS!

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PART IN YOUR PLAN.

THIS DEVICE SENDS VITAL SIGNS DATA FOR EVERY FIVE MINUTES...

THAT DOESN'T PROVE THAT I'M THE KILL-

I TOLD YOU THAT'S ONLY YOUR IMAGINATION!

AS I SAID BEFORE, IF WE PUT THE VICTIM'S WRISTBAND ON OUR HAND,

WE CAN MAKE THEM LOOK ALIVE!

THE EVIDENCE IS CLEARLY RECORDED!

CORRECT!

SO, YOU'VE FINALLY REALIZED!

INSIDE THIS LAPTOP!

ARE RECORDED HERE!

EVERYONE'S VITAL SIGNS SENT BY THE WRISTBANDS,

WHAT'S RECORDED THERE?

...

THE ONE INSIDE THE MAIN HALL.

COME HERE, EVERYONE...

SINCE THE PROBABILITY OF PEOPLE WITH SIMILAR DATA AT THE SAME TIME IS EXTREMELY SMALL,

121

86

3

25.9

THIS DATA CAN BE TREATED AS EVERYONE'S *FINGERPRINT*.

BEFORE AYASE IZUMI DIED.

PLEASE LOOK AT THE VITAL SIGNS OF EVERYONE.

IT'S THE SAME!

EH? THIS IS...

THIS NUMBERS LOOK NORMAL TO ME...

AND THAT OF THE DECEASED AYASE-SAN, IS THE SAME!

MAITANI-SAN'S VITAL SIGNS...

HAPPENED BEFORE HANAGATA'S VITAL SIGNS STOPPED.

ALSO, THIS WEIRD PHENOMENA,

CORRECT!

K.WAKI

68 19 122/88 36.7

K.MAITANI H.

AYADA

68 19 122/88 36.7

T.HANAGATA

TAKE A LOOK!

THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE, RIGHT?

RIGHT BEFORE SOMEONE DIED, THE R VITAL SIGNS EXACTLY MATCHED THOSE OF MAITANI-SAN!

CAN ONLY BE ONE!

THE ANSWER FOR THIS IRREGULAR DATA RECORD,

IN ORDER TO SEND DATA THAT THEY LOOKED ALIVE! THAT'S THE ONLY EXPLANATION!

...

YOU WORE BOTH OF THE VICTIM'S WRISTBANDS,

MAITANI!

YOU CAN'T FIND YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS ONE, MAITANI!

OR SHOULD I SAY...

MAYBE AFTER EVERYTHING'S OVER,

YOU INTENDED TO ERASE THIS DATA!

UNFORTUNATELY, I FOUND THIS DATA BEFORE YOU MANAGED TO DO SO!

• • • •

THE KILLER.

ANTLION'

EVERYTHING YOU'VE SAID IS THE TRUTH,

I'M THE ONE WHO KILLED,

AYASE AND HANAGATA!

...

IWAKI-SENPAI!!

DIDN'T YOU DO THE SAME TH NG...

WHY DID YOU DO ALL THESE HORRENDOUS TH NGS...

MAITANI! YOU...!!

WHA...

TO KUSANAGI REN?!

I KNOW EVERYTHING, SENPAI!

EVERYTHING YOU DID TO HIM IN OKINAWA!

I HEARD HE DIED BECAUSE OF AN ACCIDENT IN OK NAWA LAST YEAR...

KUSANAGI-KUN? HE WAS A STUDENT N OUR UNIVERSITY,

KUSANAGI REN?

HE DIDN'T DIE BECALISE OF AN ACCIDENT!

MAEDA-SENSE!...

.....!!

WHAT?!

HE WAS KILLED BY THOSE THREE,

IWAKI-SENPAI, AYASE AND HANAGATA!

YOU GUYS UPLOADED?

WILL YOU KEEP SAYING IT EVEN AFTER I SHOW TH S VIDEO. .

N-NO! THAT'S REALLY AN ACCIDENT .

STILL INSISTING ON THAT LIE?!

S-STOP! GIVE ME THAT!

!?

NOW NOW,

CALM DOWN, IWAKI-KUN!

W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

CLICK

WE, AS THE PEOPLE INVOLVED, HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW!

RIGHT?

IF WHAT YOU DID, BECAME THE MOTIVE IN THIS CASE,

!?

IT'S ALREADY THE TIME, RIGHT?

KUSANAGI ALREADY SWAM THAT FAR!

NO WAY!

HEY!

LOOK!

MY LIFE JACKET!

H- HELP!

LOOK! KHU KHU KHU!

SHHH!

PL-- AHH!

HELP!

THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR REJECTING ME!

TAKE THAT!

HAHAHA!

HE REALLY PANICKED!

I-IT'S BAD, IWAKI-SENPAI!

THE ENGINE WON'T START!

HEY, IT'S ALMOST TIME. LET'S GO GET HIM.

HA HA HA HA HA HA!

HELP!

O! KUSA-NAGI!

AREN'T YOU A NATIONAL CLASS SWIMMER?

WHAT THE HELL CAN I DO?!

DO SOMETHING, HANAGATA!

WHAT THE HELL?!

JUST ERASE THAT!

B-BUT, IT'S A LIVE FOOTAGE...

STOP RECORDING ALREADY, AYASE, YOU IDIOT!

CLICK

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?

M-MY GOD...

I RECEIVED IT, THANKS TO SOMEONE'S HELP.

YOU CAN'T EASILY ERASE A VIDEO FROM THE WEB, BECAUSE IT REMIANS IN THE SERVER.

H-HOW COME?

WE'D ALREADY ERASED IT FROM THE WEB...

.....!

W-WHAT DID YOU SAY?

THAT VIDEO JUST NOW...

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

IWAKI-SENPAI!

WE NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD END UP LIKE THAT!

T-THAT WAS ONLY SUPPOSED TO BE A PRANK!

YOU'VE DRANK TOO MUCH, AYASE-CHAN!

SHE WAS REJECTED BY KUSANAGI!

GIMME MORE CHUHAI!

THINKING BACK, WHEN WE WERE IN OKINAWA THE DAY BEFORE...

NO WONDER IF HE HAS ONE OR TWO GIRLS!

MOREOVER, HE'S A RICH BOY WITH A HANDSOME FACE, NO TO MENTION, HE'S SMART!

HAHA! I HEARD HE'S CURRENTLY DATING SOMEONE!

THAT DAMN KUSANAGI, IT'S EASY FOR HIM TO HAVE A JOB.

HE CAN EVEN ENTER H S FATHER'S COMPANY AFTER FEW YEARS OF NTERNSHIP IN A LARGE BANK...

WELL, I GET WHAT YOU FEEL..

I WON'T BE SATISF ED UNTIL HE'S HUMILIATED!

ANNOYING!

EVEN THOUGH I BRAVED MYSELF FOR IT, HE DIDN'T EVEN TH NK FOR A MOMENT TO REJECT ME!

BAM!

COME ON, DON'T REMIND ME! I'M HERE TO FORGET THAT!

HANAGATA, AS ONE WHO HAS TO REPEAT A YEAR, YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL!

YOU CAN SAY, WITH MY CREDIT SCORE AS IT IS, IT'S PRETTY HARD TO GET A JOB...

OUR LEVEL IS DIFFERENT!

I CAN'T EVEN GET A SALARY-MAN'S JOB...

IT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY..

IWAKI-SENPAI! HANAGATA-KUN! PLEASE DO SOMETHING TO THAT JERK!

GOD ONLY BLESSES SOME PEOPLE WITH FORTUNE...

SIGH IT'S SO UNFAIR...

SPEAKING OF WHICH, HE'S GOOD AT SWIMMING RIGHT?

YEAH!

HE ONCE PARTICIPATED IN SWIMMING CONTESTS INTER-HIGH.

JUST LIKE WHEN HE CALLOUSLY REJECTED ME!

AT LEAST I WANT TO HUMILIATE HIM!

HUMILIATE HIM, HUH...

THERE'S THIS SMOOTH WHITE *FLOUR* THAT HARDENS AFTER COMING IN CONTACT WITH WATER, USED OFTEN TO STOP THE WATER FLOW DURING THE TIME OF FLOODS.

WHILE WORKING PART-TIME AS A CONSTRUCTION WORKER, I FOUND THIS

EH? WHAT IDEA, IWAKI-SENPAI?

HEHEHE, I'VE GOT A GOOD IDEA!

OF THIS LODGE, IN WHICH WE'RE STAYING.

I FOUND ONE IN THE STORAGE,

YEAH! THAT'S THE ONE!

AH! YOU! MEAN *SUPERABSORBENT POLYMER?*

INSIDE HIS LIVE JACKET!

LET'S TAKE ONE FROM THE STORAGE AND PUT THEM

HE'S GOING SNORKELING TOMORROW, RIGHT?

INSIDE HIS LIFE JACKET?!

WHAT?! YOU PUT SUPERABSORBENT POLYMER...

EVEN MORE, OUR BOAT ENGINE SUDDENLY DIDN'T WORK...

I HONESTLY DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD END SO BADLY!

EVEN THE BEST OF SWIMMERS WILL SINK LIKE THAT!

SUPER-ABSORBENT POLYMER INCREASES 50 TIMES IN WEIGHT WHEN IT ABSORBS WATER...

WE ONLY 'KILLED' ONE IN THE PAST!

YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!! YOU'VE ALREADY KILLED TWO PEOPLE!

YOU MURDERER!

...

WHAT?

BUT TWO!

IT'S NOT ONE!

...

YOU'VE ALSO,

KILLED THE BABY INSIDE ME!

I WAS PREGNANT WITH REN'S CHILD AT THAT TIME!

ONE TRAGEDY BRINGS FORTH ANOTHER! WHAT KIND OF PAST, WILL THE PERSON IN PURSUE OF REVENGE TELL?

金田一少年の事件簿R

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RETURNS

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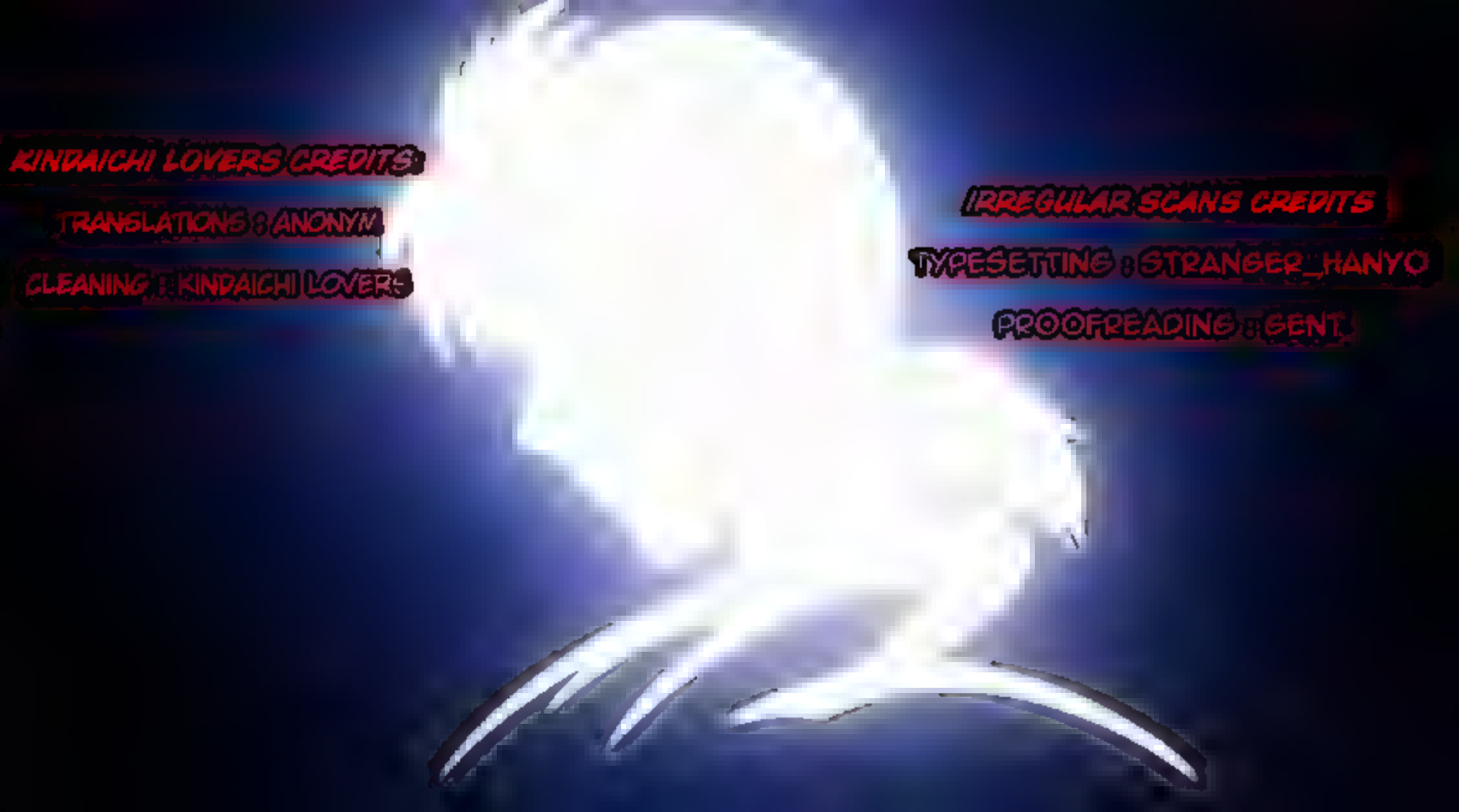
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HE'S THE ONE WHO SAVED MY LIFE!

NOT ONLY THAT!

SO THE ONE KUSANAGI-SAN WAS DATING WAS MAITANI-SAN?

KUSANAGI REN'S CHILD

HE'S MY SAVIOR!

MAITANI KAEDE HAD KUSANAGI REN'S CHILD?!
THE PAST THAT GAVE BIRTH TO 'ANTLION' IS FINALLY REVEALED!

ANTLION TRENCH MURDER CASE - LAST PART

——蟻地獄壕殺人事件 最終話(ありじごくごうさつじんじけん さいしゅうわ)——

MAITAN-SAN,

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU IN THE PAST?

EVERYTHING STARTED WHEN I WAS A THIRD-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IN SUMMER.

MY FATHER'S INHERITED FABRIC STORE FOR GENERATIONS SUDDENLY WENT BANKRUPT..

HE FRANTICALLY TRIED TO FIND MONEY FOR HIS EMPLOYEES,

THE CLIENT DIDN'T HEED MY FATHER.

!?

危服呆

HOWEVER, THE CLIENT BETRAYED MY FATHER TO THE POINT THAT HE HAD TO BOW TO HIM...

IN TURN, HE KEPT INSULTING MY FATHER.

!

!!!

HELLO...

EH?

!

MOM!

MY HUSBAND... IS NOT A MURDERER...

UGH!

NO. NO WAY..

FATHER WAS ARRESTED, MOTHER DIED, THE ONLY THING LEFT FOR ME,

WAS A PILE OF DEBTS.

MOTHER! MOTHER!!

MY MOTHER WHOSE HEART CONDITION WAS ALREADY BAD, HAD A HEART ATTACK AND DIED SOON AFTER.

POLICE TOLD MY MOTHER THAT MY FATHER STABBED THE CLIENT'S DIRECTOR IN A RAGE.

I'VE LOST EVERYTHING...

...

PURRRR

PURRRR

PHONES OF INSULTS AND MOCKERY KEPT COMING SINCE THAT DAY...

PURRRR

PURRRR

PURRRR

YES...

ゴミ ね

人殺しの家族を出て行け

金返せ!!

金返せ!!

ハッ

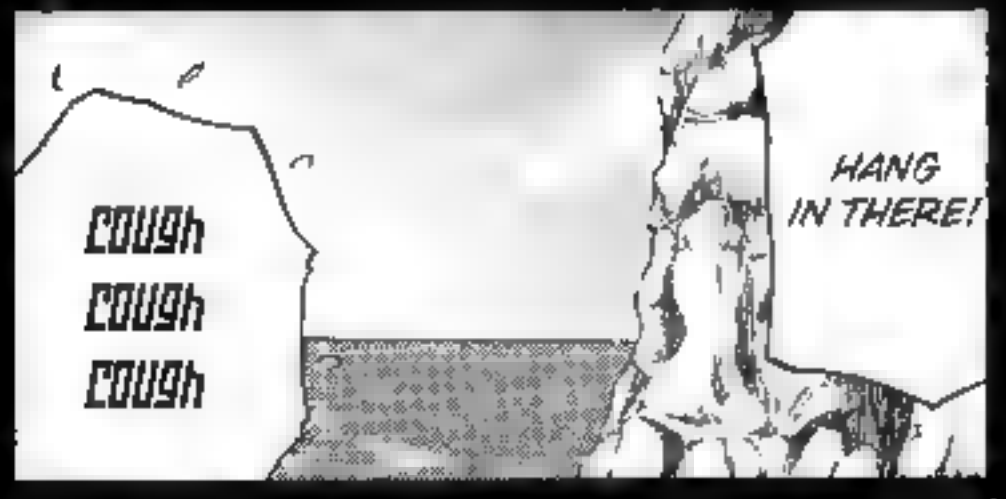
EVEN MY WILL TO LIVE.

ゴゴゴ

ゴゴゴ

ゴゴゴ

I...
I...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?


COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
HANG IN THERE!

...
WHAT HAPPENED? DID YOU FALL FROM THE CLIFF?
IT'S DANGEROUS IF YOU'RE WASHED AWAY BY THE TIDE!

HEY?

HUUUUU!

UH...

WE WERE IN A RELATIONSHIP AFTER THAT ..

HE HELD ME WARMLY AND LET ME CRY ON H S SHOULDER EVEN THOUGH I WAS A MERE STRANGER.

EVERYONE IN MY CIRCLE, THAT WE'RE DATING?

KAEDE, IS IT THE TIME WE TELL...

I ATTENDED NIGHT SCHOOL WHILE WORKING PART-TIME TO ENTER THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS HIM.

AND THEN WE LIVED TOGETHER IN HIS MANSION IN TOKYO,

I TOLD YOU! DON'T!

DON'T YOU LOVE ME?

BESIDES, I WANT TO MARRY YOU...

WHY DO WE HAVE TO KEEP IT A SECRET EVEN THOUGH WE'RE COHABITATING?

THAT AYASE... AS OF LATE SHE'S...

I BELIEVE YOU, REN. DON'T WORRY.

I'M SORRY, PLEASE DON'T BRING THIS UP ANYMORE.

...

I LOVE YOU! BUT...

KAEDE!

YOU INVES-TIGATED MY PAST?

Maitani Kaede Investigation Report

T-THIS IS...

AND THEN... WHEN I WAS CLEANING HIS ROOM,

I FOUND A DOCUMENT HE HID IN HIS TABLE.

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?

BUT... YOU KNOW ABOUT MY FATHER!

HA

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT! I...

WHEN I TOLD MY PARENTS THAT I WANTED TO MARRY YOU, THEY...

EH?

THAT'S NOT YOUR FAULT!

MY FATHER IS A...

REN...

IN CONTRARY, I'M GLAD I FINALLY KNEW ABOUT YOUR PAST AND UNEASINESS...

I'M SURE YOUR FATHER HAD HIS OWN REASONS,

BUT I DON'T MIND ABOUT THIS AT ALL!

!

I WANT TO MARRY YOU!

I WILL TELL YOU ONE MORE TIME,

...YES!

I WAS REALLY HAPPY...

THAT ONE SENTENCE ONCE AGAIN SAVED MY LIFE.

BUT SOON AFTER, HE WENT TO OKINAWA WITH H S CIRCLE...

HE DID ASSURE ME THOUGH,

NOT LONG AFTER THAT I WAS PREGNANT,

HE WAS VERY ECSTATIC ABOUT IT.

. . . .

THAT AFTER HIS TRIP HE WOULD TELL THEM ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP,

AND ANNOUNCE OUR MARRIAGE.

BUT THEN...

HOW UNBELIEVABLE!

THE D RECTOR'S SON WHO 'S FAMOUS FOR H S SWIMMING ABILITY,

H'S BODY WAS ALSO FOUND LONG AFTER HE WENT M.SS NG, HOW DEVASTATING ...

SHHH!

HEY...

HE ALSO PLANNED ON GETTING MARRIED. HIS FIANCEE IS ALSO HERE, YOU KNOW

REALLY? THAT'S EVEN MORE SAD...

...

EH?

WHAT'S THIS?! THIS PAIN, IT'S UNBEARABLE!

urgh!

I HAVE TO GIVE BIRTH TO THIS CHILD AND LIVE WITH THEM...

DON'T CRY! YOU CAN ENDURE IT.

REN!

HELP ME!

HELP!

WHO ARE ...

ARE YOU FINE?

I PASSED OUT BECAUSE OF THAT EXTREME PAIN.

YOU SUFFERED FROM A SEVERE INTERNAL BLEEDING, YOU ALMOST LOST YOUR LIFE.

I SAW YOU LYING ON THE GROUND AND BROUGHT YOU HERE,

WHEN I WOKE UP, I WAS ALREADY IN A HOSPITAL.

...I'M SORRY...

WHAT ABOUT MY BABY .

MY BABY...

...NO... WAY...

I SEE, THAT LIFE MUST BE HARD FOR YOU...

WHAT'S LOST WON'T COME BACK, INDEED...

EVERYTHING WAS GONE IN THAT ONE SUMMER...

MY HAPPY LIFE WITH THE MAN I LOVE...

AREN'T WE ALL A NEW, HAPPY FAMILY?

HOWEVER, WITH THE BABY INSIDE,

AAAAAH!

I'VE ALSO LOST THAT NEW FAMILY.

AAAAAAAAAH!

...
MY DEEP CONDOLENCES FOR YOU...

IF YOU WANT I CAN HELP YOU,

MAITANI-SAN!

!

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

IN ORDER TO MAKE YOU HIS 'PUPPET'

THAT MAN HAD INVESTIGATED YOUR BACKGROUND.

HEH?

MAYUMI, YOU WERE TRICKED!

EVEN THOUGH TAKATO HIMSELF MADE THE PLAN, HE NEVER PARTICIPATES IN THE MURDER DIRECTLY!

EH?

IT'S HIGHLY LIKELY HE WILL DISGUISE HIMSELF AS SOMEONE WITH LITTLE TO NO ROLE HERE!

OR SHOULD I SAY... TAKATO YOUICHI!

MIZUKI NANAO!

SINCE IT'S A COLOR OF ROSES AND BLOOD, RIGHT?

A COLOR YOU FEEL THE MOST COMFORTABLE WITH MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE

BESIDES, YOU WEAR RED...

THE DEMONIC WILL IS PUNISHED!
Aaa!

TAKATO!

DON'T ADD ANY MORE VICTIMS TO YOUR CREEPY ART OF CRIME!

I'VE HAD MY FAIR SHARE OF EXPERIENCE IN KILLING PEOPLE...

IF YOU INSIST, I'LL GIVE YOU ONE SWIFT, FATAL STRIKE!

I THOUGHT YOU OF ALL PEOPLE WOULD UNDERSTAND MY ART MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE!

I FEEL SAD WHEN YOU CALL IT 'CREEPY ART'.

CRAP! IT'S LIKELY FROM THE 'ATSUGI'

IT WON'T BUDGE! DAMMIT!

AHH

GOOD LUCK!

WE WILL MEET AGAIN SOON, FAMOUS DETECTIVE!

MY ROOM DOESN'T EVEN HAVE A LOCK FROM THE OUTSIDE OR INSIDE

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS ROOM?!

TWO DAYS LATER, A RESCUE BOAT CAME AS SCHEDULED.

WAS CLOSED, LEAVING AN UNSATISFACTORY FEELING.

FINALLY, THE MURDER CASE WHICH HAPPENED IN THIS MAZE LIKE ANTI-ION TRENCH...

AND EVACUATED ALL OF US.

WHAT'S WRONG, KINDAICH?

LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING'S WEIGHING ON YOUR MIND?

YEAH...

THAT KILLER CONTROLLED EVERYTHING FROM BEHIND THE SCENE AGAIN, HUH?

SPEAKING OF WHICH, MY ROOM DOESN'T HAVE ONE.

DOES YOUR ROOM HAVE A LOCK, MIYUKI?

EH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I'M STILL THINKING ABOUT HOW HE WAS ABLE TO LOCK IWAKI'S ROOM.

!?

AND HE DISAPPEARS WITHOUT LEAVING ANY TRACE.

THE END, WHEN I REVEAL EVERYTHING.

IT LOOKS AS IF TAKATO HAD ALREADY PREDICTED THIS SCENARIO.

PREDICTED THIS SCENARIO?

YEAH, MINE TOO, IT'S THE SAME.

WE WILL MEET AGAIN SOON, FAMOUS DETECTIVE!

GOOD LUCK!

I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THIS WILL HAPPEN AGAIN, SOONER OR LATER.

AND, DOES THAT MEAN ANYTHING?

WHAT ARE YOU REALLY PLANNING,

TAKATO!

ANTLION TRENCH MURDER CASE - END

蟻地獄壕殺人事件 end

金田一少年の事件簿R

KINDAICHI
RETURNS

I DON'T WANNA. I'M SCARED...

I MIGHT REALLY DIE...

JUMP!

JUMP!

DIE!

DIE!

ONE, TWO!

DIE FASTER, WILL YA!

YOU TRASH!

金田一少年の事件簿R

BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM MURDER CASE

CHAPTER 1

A NEW SERIES
HAS BEGUN!

THE COLOUR OF THE FLOWER
THAT BLOOMS THERE.
THE COLOUR OF BLOOD
HIDDEN BY THE CRIMSON COLOUR.

TO WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

WE'VE DECIDED THE SPRING RESEARCH TOPIC FOR THE MYSTERY CLUB

OKAY. WITH THIS...

THE STRANGE MURDER

THE THEME IS NONE OTHER THAN...

THE STRANGE MURDER!!

WE'LL DIVIDE OURSELVES INTO FOUR TEAMS BY DRAWING LOTS

WE'LL INVESTIGATE ON OUR OWN STRANGE MURDER CASES THAT REALLY HAPPENED IN THE PAST! AND I THINK FOR THE RESEARCH TEAMS

YES, OF COURSE. IF WE'RE IN PAIRS...

HEY, HEY. IF THE GROUPS ARE DECIDED BY LOTS...

DO Y'ALL AGREE?

. . . .

FU FU FU

YOU'RE ALL SO NAIVE, FRESHMEN!

NO MATTER WHAT, Y'ALL WON'T BE WITH NANASE-KUN.

THAT'S BECAUSE...

IT'S BEST IF WE PAIR UP WITH SENIOR NANASE WHO'S PRETTY AND SMART AS WELL!

YEAH!!!

WITH THIS I CAN PAIR UP WITH NANASE ♥

AND KINDAICHI! YOU'LL BE WITH THE GANSEKIS!

AND I CAN DECIDE THE LOT THAT EVERYONE DRAWS!

THERE'S A SECRET HOLE BEHIND THIS LOTTERY BOX

NEXT WILL BE MURAKAMI SOUTA WHO'S BEEN A MYSTERY CLUB MEMBER SINCE I DON'T KNOW WHEN!

HA HA HA

WELL, I GUESS THAT'S RIGHT...

I GOT AN "A"

I GOT AN "E"

LET'S START! FIRSTLY, YOU FRESHMEN TAKE THE LOTS!

OKAY!

B

"B"!

EH... I GOT A "B"

"D" HASN'T COME OUT YET SINCE DRAWING STARTED!

SO THAT HE AND MIYUKI CAN GET "D". THAT DAMNED MAKABE!

MAYBE IN THE FIRST PLACE THE "D" WAS NEVER PUT IN THERE

TSK!

I GOT A "C" TOO!

KYAA! I GOT "C". WHAT DID YOU GET, IWAKO?

NEXT, NANASE-KUN

OKAY!

ALL RIGHT, NOW'S THE TIME

DID HE THINK I WILL JUST LET HIM DO IT?

-3

A "D"!

I GOT...

WELL THEN, NEXT WOULD BE...

!?

"D"?

I HAVEN'T TAKEN ONE YET, Y'KNOW!

EH? ISN'T IT WEIRD, SENIOR MAKABE?

STOP IT!

KI- KINDAICHI!

AH! NEXT WOULD BE ME!

W-WELL THAT'S TRUE.

IS ALWAYS THE LAST ONE TO TAKE IT, RIGHT?

USUALLY THE ONE WHO MADE THE LOTS

HUFT!

FU FU FU FU. EAT THAT! EAT THAT! STUPID GUY!

W-WAIT A MINUTE!

THERE!

THANK YOU!

BOTH OF US WILL ENJOY HOT SPRING BATHS AT THE INN... ♥♥♥

A STUDY TOUR WITH JUST NANASE-KUN IN THE NAME OF INVESTIGATION!

AND I'LL BE THE LAST...!

I WIN!

WHY IS IT...

C!?

YOU GOT TWO FLOWERS IN A GO!

WHOA! YOU'RE REALLY LUCKY, SENIOR MAKABE!

NO... J-JUST A SECOND!

KYAA! ♥♥♥

AWW YEAH! WE'RE WITH SENIOR MAKABE! ♥♥♥

SORRY, I'VE CHANGED IT!

WHAT?

JUST HAPPENED TO BE WITH MIYUKI AGAIN! WHAT A GREAT EXCHANGE, EH?

I GOT A "D"

WHY?

W-WHY? I THOUGHT MY PLAN WAS PERFECT!

WITHOUT YOU REALISING IT, I TOOK EVERYTHING AND WHEN MY TURN CAME, I PUT IT BACK

THE BOX THAT YOU DEVISED SO THAT YOU'D GET A "D" LOT

HAD ALREADY CHANGED WHEN I PUT MY HAND THAT HAD A "C" LOT THAT I MADE JUST NOW

SENIOR MAKABE!

THAT'S EASY

CHILDISH

THIS IS THE TIME FOR MY CON*** THAT I'VE HAD FOR LONG BUT HAVE NEVER USED!

?

WITH THIS, I GOT THE CHANCE TO DO A STUDY TOUR WITH MIYUKI!

PLOK

!?

HAJIME-CHAN!

AT LAST!

OH! MIYUKI...

AH!! FINALLY I CAN BE A REAL MAN

MY VIRGIN LIFE WAS QUITE LONG, EH!

YESTERDAY I HAPPENED TO MEET SENIOR NANASE AND SHE TOLD ME ABOUT THIS TOUR.

I BEGGED HER TO BRING ME TOO BECAUSE MY VIDEO CAMERA WILL SURELY HELP IN COLLECTING DATA ABOUT STRANGE MURDERS!

THE SECOND SAKI! WHY ARE YOU HERE?

SENIOR! I'M REALLY HAPPY! THE THREE OF US CAN GO ON A STUDY TOUR AGAIN!

YEAH!

YOU'RE SUCH A BOTHER!

O-OH I SEE! THAT'S GOOD!

DAMN IT!

THOUGH IT'S STILL TOKYO'S AREA HERE

WHO'D GUESS THERE'S STILL A NATURAL PLACE LIKE THIS!

FURTHERMORE, THIS BUS ONLY COMES AND GOES ONCE A DAY.

AWW... IT'S STILL A RURAL AREA EH!

TO COLLECT DATA? WHAT KIND OF DATA?

OH, THAT'S...

EH! MR DRIVER, WE'RE ACTUALLY GOING THERE TO COLLECT DATA!

OH, CHERRY BLOSSOMS HUH!

MOREOVER THERE ARE STILL MANY UNKNOWN GOOD PLACES!

YOU'RE ALL GOING TO THE YOZAKURA VILLAGE THAT'S FAMOUS FOR ITS CHERRY BLOSSOMS, RIGHT?

...

ABOUT THAT CHERRY BLOSSOM CASE!

!

I FEEL SO EXCITED!

IT WAS SAID THAT THE CASE WAS FULL OF MYSTERY AND THE CULPRIT HASN'T BEEN CAUGHT YET THOUGH IT HAPPENED 30 YEARS AGO

WE'RE GOING THERE TO COLLECT DATA AND SOLVE CASES THAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST AND HAVEN'T BEEN SOLVED, WHICH ARE CONSIDERED STRANGE MURDERS.

WE'RE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL MYSTERY CLUB MEMBERS

WHAT'S SO EXCITING ABOUT THAT?

EH?

EVERYONE IN THE YOZAKURA VILLAGE WANTS TO FORGET

ABOUT THAT INCIDENT!

UM...

WELL... WHATEVER ...

IT HAPPENS THAT NOW IS THE RIGHT TIME TO SEE CHERRY BLOSSOMS IN THE YOZAKURA VILLAGE

JUST ENJOY IT AND QUICKLY GO BACK!

O-OKAY...

.....

WE FINALLY REACHED!

THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE WE'LL BE STAYING

YOZAKURATEI!!

OH! THERE'S A TRENDY WESTERN-STYLED BUILDING IN THE DEPTHS OF THE MOUNTAINS HERE?

...

HAH

OH! SO PRET-

YOU'RE ALL FUDOU SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL MYSTERY CLUB MEMBERS, RIGHT!

WELCOME!

THEY SAID THAT DURING THE SHOUWA ERA, THIS PLACE WAS A SANATORIUM

NATRIUM?

THAT'S SALT, SENIOR

TSK!

O-OKAY, MS SHIORI!

!

WELCOME TO YOZAKU-RATE!!

YOU CAN CALL ME SHIORI!

I WAS ASKED BY THE BUILDING OWNER TO WELCOME YOU ALL. I'M HAZAKI SHIORI, A PART-TIMER HERE

HAZAKI SHIORI (22)

TSK! JUST BECAUSE HE'S GOOD-LOOKING HUH?

AH! Y-YES!

♪

WHAT ARE YOU RECORDING, SAKI?

IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, YOU CAN CONTACT ME

I'M ALSO A PART-TIMER HERE! MY NAME'S SHIKISHIMA

I'LL BRING YOU TO THE ROOMS

TODAY, THERE'S A LEISURE WALK SESSION IN YOZAKURA, SO THE DINNER WILL BE SHORTER THAN USUAL

OKAY~~

SHIKISHIMA DAIGO (21)

AH! THAT'S A PHOTO OF A VERY BEAUTIFUL WOMAN!

IS SHE AN ACTRESS?

WHOA! THERE ARE SO MANY OLD PHOTOS!

SO YOU'RE THE OWNER OF THIS BUILDING?

WELCOME TO YOZAKURATEI!

KHUKHUKHU... THAT IS MY PHOTO FROM WHEN I WAS YOUNGER!

YES, I WAS TREATED AND RECOVERED IN THIS SANATORIUM

WHEN THIS PLACE WAS CLOSED, I BOUGHT IT AND TURNED IT INTO AN INN

AIZEN YOSHINO (72)

THE GRANNY FROM EARLIER!

AH! NO, I COULD EAT EVERYTHING!

ME TOO. THERE IS NO FOOD THAT I DISLIKE!

IS THERE ANY FOOD THAT YOU DIDN'T LIKE IN TODAY'S DINNER?

WELCOME, EVERYONE!

I'M KITAYASHIKI, THE COOK HERE

KITAYASHIKI GOUZOU (48)

THANK YOU FOR WAITING YOU...

WHAT A PICKY EATER...

FOR ME... IT'S PORK, ANIMAL FAT, PEPPER, TOMATO, AND...

HE'S FUYUBE SOUSUKE, A LAWYER

HELLO!

FUYUBE SOUSUKE (30)

I'M ETOU

ETOU CHINATSU, A DOCTOR

ETOU CHINATSU (30)

WELCOME!

THOUGH I LOOK LIKE THIS, I'M A DIRECTOR, Y'KNOW! NICE TO MEET YOU!

MY NAME'S ONODA KYOUICHIROU

HMM? YOU'RE REALLY PRETTY. NEW PART-TIMER?

Y-YES! MY NAME IS HAZAKI SHIORI

ONODA KYOUICHIROU (30)

MR TORAMOTO KATSUO

PLEASE SIT HERE!

BY OPENING HIS MASK!

HOW IS HE GONNA EAT?

SENIOR, HE WENT HERE TO HAVE DINNER BUT HE KEPT HIS MASK ON

YOU'RE MR. TORAMOTO RIGHT?

TORAMOTO KATSUO (76)

AH! I'M BEAT!

THANK YOU FOR COMING EVERY YEAR, MS. MIYAZAWA

THIS YEAR'S RED COLOUR ON THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS IS REALLY RED, IT'S SO PRECIOUS TO BE PAINTING

DON'T YOU THINK SO, MDM. AIZEN? IT'S REALLY FUN!

NO PLACE IS AS GOOD AS THIS ONE!

MIYAZAWA SHOUKO (34)

WELL THEN EVERYONE, WELCOME TO YOZAKURATEI TODAY AND HAVE A GOOD REST HERE

BEFORE EATING OUR DINNER AND BEFORE THE SKY TURNS DARK, LET'S SEE THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS IN THE GARDEN!

I'VE SEEN THAT PERSON IN MAGAZINES

I THINK SHE'S MIYAZAWA SHOUKO, A PAINTER

HEH? A FAMOUS PERSON EH?

IT'S CRIMSON IN COLOUR!

ARE THOSE REALLY CHERRY BLOSSOMS?

EH?

THIS IS BLOOD RED, THOUGH!

SO PRETTY!

OH! COOL!

THAT'S WHY THEY'RE CALLED *BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOMS!*

THEY SAY THAT THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS HERE ARE COLOURED LIKE THIS BECAUSE THEY'VE SUCKED HUMAN BLOOD, FUFUFU

CHISUI ZAKURA = BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM

WAITING FOR THE TIME TO FULLY BLOOM WHILE WAITING FOR A NEW SACRIFICE...

THE BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM IS SAID TO BLOOM BECAUSE THEY SUCK BLOOD

THE FALLING CRIMSON CHERRY BLOSSOMS HAVE LIFTED THE TRAGEDY CURTAIN AT THIS PLACE!

Wait for the next chapter at Kindaichi-Lovers

THAT TURNS RED FROM SUCKING BLOOD, EH...

THE BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM

WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED...

OH YEAH, WE CAME HERE TO INVESTIGATE CASES THAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST...

IN YOZAKURATEI...?

THE LUSH BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM. WHAT TERRIFYING CASE WILL BE KNOWN IN THIS CRIMSON-COLOURED LAND?

BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM MURDER CASE

CHAPTER 2

♪

AH!

CAN I HAVE MORE OF THIS?

LOOKS LIKE ONLY THAT PERSON ISN'T HAVING FOOD...

HEY, HAJIME-CHAN...

...

WHO CARES! MAYBE THAT OLD MAN'S HAVING A STOMACHACHE!

...

YOU'RE RIGHT! SINCE HE KEEPS ON GAZING AT THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS!

TORAMOTO KATSUO (76)

MAYBE HE WANTS TO HIDE HIS FACE WITH THAT MASK

SSH! HAJIME-CHAN, HE'LL HEAR YOU!

HE SAID IT'S OKAY, HE JUST WANTS TO SIT THERE WHILE LOOKING AT THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS

OH!

MR TORA-MOTO THERE WANTS HIS FOOD SENT TO HIS ROOM

HAZAKI SHIORI (22)

AH! THANKS TO YOU TOO, OWNER AIZEN

MS ETOU. MR FUYUBE. MR ONODA. THANK YOU FOR COMING AGAIN THIS YEAR

AIZEN YOSHINO (72)

SUCCESS, HUH?

SO I GUESS WE'LL TRY TO COME AND GATHER AGAIN HERE THIS YEAR

AH, THAT'S RIGHT. THIS CHERRY BLOSSOM MEETING WAS THE START OF THE THREE OF US' SUCCESS

ETOU CHINATSU (30)

WE ALWAYS COME HERE EVERY YEAR DURING THE CHERRY BLOSSOM SEASON

IT'S ALREADY THE FIFTH YEAR EH?

FUYUBE SOUSUKE (30)

...

WELL, THOUGH A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENED, HUH?

...

ONODA KYOUICHIROU (30)

...

SHOULD I COLOUR IT WITH BLOOD INSTEAD? UHUHUHU...

HEY HEY HEY!

THIS YEAR THE BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM IS REDDER THAN EVER. SO PRETTY!

IT SEEMS REALLY DIFFICULT TO EXPRESS THIS COLOUR

NO PROBLEM, OWNER AIZEN

MS MIYAZAWA, THANK YOU FOR COMING AGAIN THIS YEAR

MIYAZAWA SHOUKO (34)

BUT WHEN IT'S THE CHERRY BLOSSOM TIME, THE PEOPLE WHO COME IMMEDIATELY CHANGE

THERE ARE ALSO SOME GUESTS WHO ARE QUITE ANNOYING EVERY YEAR

EH~~~

USUALLY THE GUESTS THAT COME HERE ARE ONLY FISHERMEN OF THE MOUNTAIN

I'VE BEEN WORKING PART TIME HERE SINCE THIS LAST YEAR'S SEASON

ALL THE GUESTS THIS SEASON ARE INTERESTING, HUH?

EH? YEAH... HAHAHA

SHIKISHIMA DAIGO (21)

WHEN HE COMES BACK, HE'LL SURELY RESERVE A ROOM FOR NEXT YEAR. THAT'S WHAT OWNER AIZEN SAID

YES, HE'S ONE THAT COMES OFTEN SINCE YEARS AGO

MR SHIKISHIMA, DID THE MASKED MAN COME LAST YEAR ALSO?

YEAH...

LOVES THE RED CHERRY BLOSSOMS HERE, EH?

SO HE ALWAYS COMES EVERY YEAR, THAT MEANS HE REALLY

THAT'S RIGHT! I'M ALL PREPARED AND ON STAND-BY!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, HAJIME-CHAN? WE STILL HAVE THE TASK OF COLLECTING DATA!

HUH? WE CAN STILL DO IT TOMORROW RIGHT!

SURE

-3

OKAY, AFTER FINISHING DESSERT

WE'LL PLAY CARDS IN OUR ROOM

DATA COLLECTION, YOU SAY?

C'MON! LET'S GO!

NOPE!

AH! W-WA-AH!

EXCUSE ME, CAN I HAVE A MINUTE PLEASE,

MR KITA-YASHIKI?

KITAYASHIKI GOUZOU (48)

WHAT KIND OF DATA ARE YOU COLLECTING IN A VILLAGE LIKE THIS?

FOR OUR MYSTERY CLUB RESEARCH!

YUP! THIS TIME WE'RE HAVING A STUDY TOUR AS WELL AS DATA COLLECTION

A STRANGE CASE RELATED TO BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOMS!

ERR... ARE WE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING UP THIS TOPIC?

EH... NOPE. I MYSELF DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND IT

BUT VERY WELL, LET'S DO THIS WHILE HAVING SOME TEA OVER THERE

.....!

THOSE TWO ARE... DOCTORS?

RIGHT!

THIS IS THE ALBUM WHEN THIS PLACE WAS STILL A SANA-TORIUM

HEH?

HE WAS AN ELITE DOCTOR WHO WORKED AT A BIG HOSPITAL IN TOKYO

BUT FOR UNKNOWN REASONS, HE SUDDENLY CAME TO THE SANATORIUM IN THIS VILLAGE

ONE OF THEM WAS ***KIGATA OURYUU*** WHO WAS FORMERLY A SURGEON

THIS PLACE USED TO HAVE MANY PATIENTS

LOOKS LIKE THESE TWO DOCTORS WORKED IN SHIFTS

BUT IN THE 1960'S, TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS HERE DECREASED

MR OKUDERA PASSED AWAY YESTERDAY AND I'VE SENT HIS BODY TO HIS FAMILY

WHEN THAT HAPPENED, DOCTOR KIGATA...

SINCE THEN, GRADUALLY THE PATIENTS DISAPPEARED ONE BY ONE

ALWAYS GAVE VARIOUS REASONS FOR THEIR DISAPPEARANCE, BE IT A SUDDEN CHANGE IN THE PATIENT'S CONDITION,

OR BEING MOVED TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL, AND THAT ALWAYS HAPPENED WHEN DOCTOR KIGATA WAS ON DUTY

I SEE. HE LOOKED FINE BEFORE, THOUGH

BUT HIS CONDITION SUDDENLY WORSENED

FINALLY THERE WAS A NURSE WHO CAUGHT HIM RED-HANDED!

THEN, WHEN SPRING CAME CLOSER...

...

AFTER THAT, THERE WERE STILL A LOT OF PATIENTS WHO DISAPPEARED

WHERE DID HE GO?

MR SATOU!

EH? MR SATOU?

MR SATOU, I'VE COME TO TAKE YOUR TEMPE-RATURE

ISN'T THAT...?

MR SATOU

DOCTOR KIGATA?

...

EEEK!!

AND BURIED THEIR BODIES UNDER THE CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE

...

DOCTOR KIGATA KILLED THE PATIENTS

AND FOUND THE MUTILATED BODIES OF THE PATIENTS WHO PREVIOUSLY DISAPPEARED ONE BY ONE

THE POLICE INVESTIGATED THE SOIL UNDER THE CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE

ACCORDING TO THE NURSE WHEN THE POLICE CAME, DOCTOR KIGATA HAD ALREADY DISAPPEARED

THOUGH, IN HIS MEDICAL EXAMINATION NOTEBOOK, HE HAD WRITTEN THIS

I DON'T KNOW...

BURY THE BODIES UNDER THE CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE?

WHY DID THAT DOCTOR KIGATA

AND THEN SLOWLY, SPRING CAME

AND SOMETHING UNBELIEV-ABLE HAPPENED!

March

Memo

Only one more month till the cherry blossom blooms. This year, the bloodthirsty cherry blossom will bloom perfectly and will be coloured red like blood. I can't wait to enjoy it.

BLOOMED CRIMSON-COLOURED CHERRY BLOSSOMS THAT LOOKED LIKE THEY'D SUCKED BLOOD

IN THE CHERRY BLOSSOM TREES PARK WHERE THE BODIES WERE BURIED

WITH *CHISUI ZAKURA* SINCE THEY BLOOM AFTER SUCKING HUMAN'S BLOOD

BUT SINCE THAT INCIDENT, PEOPLE CALL THAT DARK RED CHERRY BLOSSOM

BECAUSE THE SOIL HERE IS SOFT, WHEN RAIN COMES IT'LL IMMEDIATELY BE SWEPT OFF

IN THE PAST THE MEANING OF *CHISUI ZAKURA* WAS THE CHERRY BLOSSOM THAT RULES THE WATER

CHISUI ZAKURA : THE BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM.

IF HE'S STILL ALIVE NOW, HOW OLD IS HE ROUGHLY GONNA BE?

NO IDEA. MAYBE OVER 70 YEARS OLD...

HAS DOCTOR KIGATA BEEN CAUGHT?

NOPE. HE DISAPPEARED TO SOMEWHERE AND HASN'T BEEN FOUND YET!

KILLED THE PATIENTS SO THAT THEIR BLOOD WOULD BE SUCKED BY THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS

IMPOSSIBLE ... THAT MEANS DOCTOR KIGATA

HEY...

...

70 YEARS OLD... HMM...

HEY~~~! SAKI!

BUT THEY SAID THAT SOME CULPRITS COME BACK TO THE CRIME SCENE...

THAT CAN'T BE. WHY WOULD HE COME HERE COVERING HIS FACE TO SEE THE BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM BLOOMS

IMPOSSIBLE!

AH YEAH, THAT MASKED OLD MAN!

HIS AGE IS ALSO AROUND THERE, RIGHT?

I UNDER-STAND. I'LL GO THERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

YES PLEASE!

AH! THAT WAS SUCH A SHOCK!

FELT LIKE MY HEART WAS GONNA DROP!

DID YOU COME HERE TO TELL ME THAT YOU'VE ALREADY EATEN AND THE REST IS GOING TO BE CLEANED UP SOON?

AH! MR TORAMOTO!

WHATEVER IT IS, WE SHOULD JUST THINK ABOUT IT WHILE LOOKING AT THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS IN THE DINING ROOM

GUESS SO. LET'S REARRANGE THE STORY JUST NOW!

FOR TODAY'S DATA COLLECTION CAN WE LEAVE IT LIKE THIS?

THEN HOW?

HEY, CHINATSU! I'VE TAKEN THE TROUBLE TO BUY A GOOD SAKE. DON'T PRETEND!

I'M TIRED. I WANNA SLEEP!

KYA HA HA HA

WE'VE PREPARED A RANGE OF PROCESSED PORK AND CHEESE

OH! SOUNDS YUMMY!

HMM.... HE LOOKS MORE LIKE AN IDIOT NOW!

THAT DIRECTOR, MR ONODA LOOKED ELEGANT UNTIL JUST NOW

THIS IS ROMANEE CONTI, SEE!

Y'KNOW? ONE BOTTLE CAN COST 1 MILLION YEN!

EH? NO... BUT...

BY THE WAY, A PART-TIMER LIKE YOU IS OF AGE, RIGHT?

WHAT IF YOU DRINK WITH US?

WHOA, WHOA! KYAHA HAHA

AH! WHAT THE HECK ARE THEY DOING?

NO NEED TO ACT COOL! DAMNED LAWYER!

HUH?

STOP IT, ONODA!

YOU'RE, EH... HAZAKI, RIGHT? YOU BETTER JUST GO AWAY!

YOU'RE SO NOISY, FUYUBE!

APOLOGIES, THE LIGHTING LAMPS IN THE GARDEN WILL SOON BE SWITCHED OFF

I UNDER-STAND. LET'S GO, ONODA.

DON'T BE A PARTY-POOPER! IT'S NOT A HOSPITAL HERE, Y'KNOW!

BUT THIS USED TO BE A HOSPITAL! I WAS A DOCTOR!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, TIME TO TURN THE LIGHTS OFF

HUH? TURN THE LIGHTS OFF?

QUITE NOISY HUH?

THEY LEFT...

YEAH, THEY'RE SUCH A STRANGE GROUP!

TSK~~~ THOUGH I'VE BROUGHT A ROMANEE

HMM?

THEY'RE SWITCHING THE LIGHTS OFF SOON, WE CAN'T CONTINUE TO STAY HERE!

OKAY!

WHAT ABOUT GATHERING IN MY ROOM?

OWNED AIZEN...

THAT'S...

...RIGHT?

HAHAHA, ETOU, RIGHT?

YOU'RE COMING TO DRINK ROMANEE-CONTI RIGHT?

HMM? WHO'S THAT?

DAMN!

SO THEY DON'T WANNA STAY HERE, IDIOTS!

DO THEY REALLY NOT KNOW THE PRICE OF THIS WINE?

EH?

.....

WHAT...

UGH...

H-HELP...

H-...

WHOOSH

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

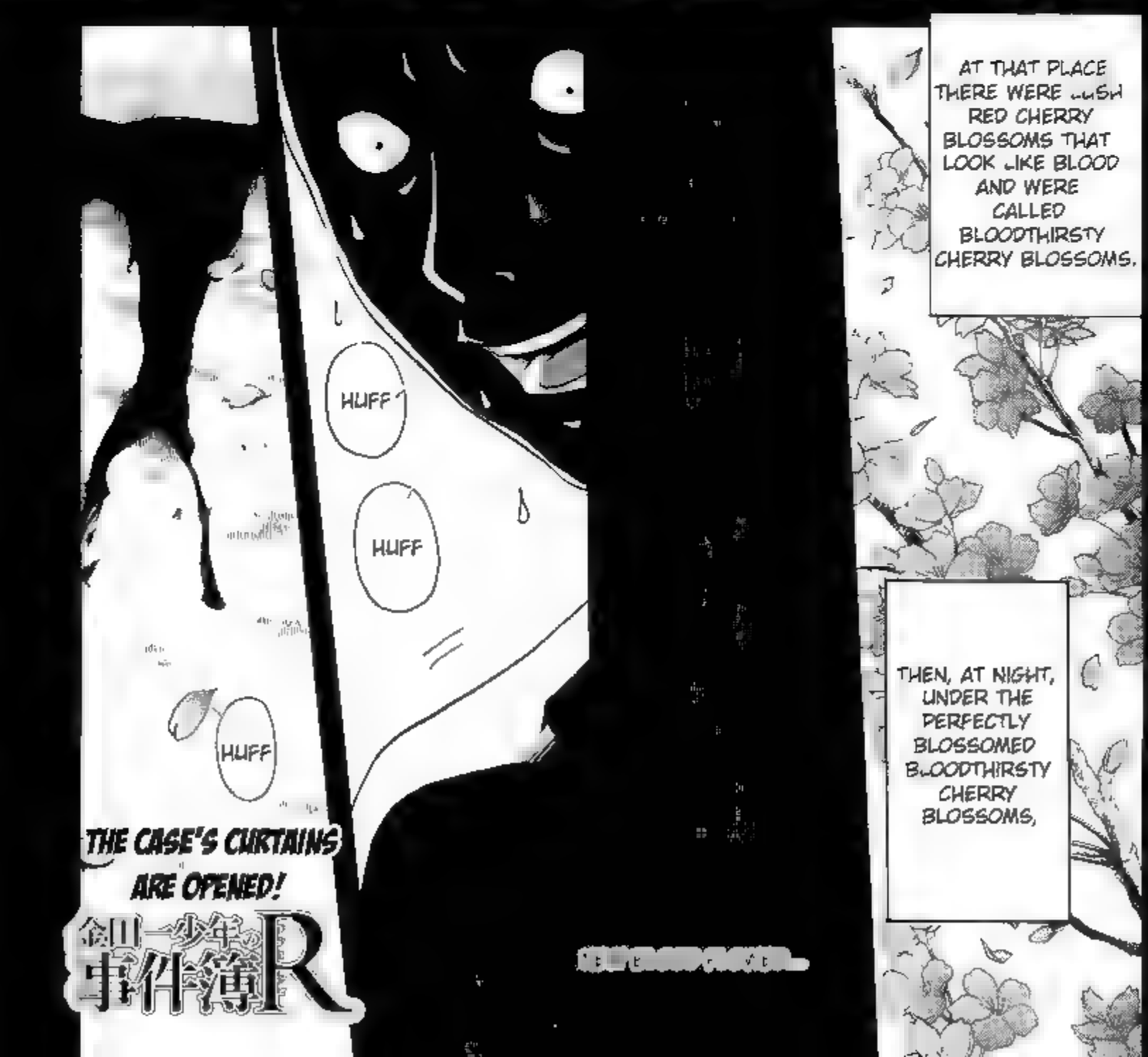
AND THE CASE CURTAINS WERE RISED
WITH THE BLOW OF RED WIND
AT YOZAKURATEI INN...

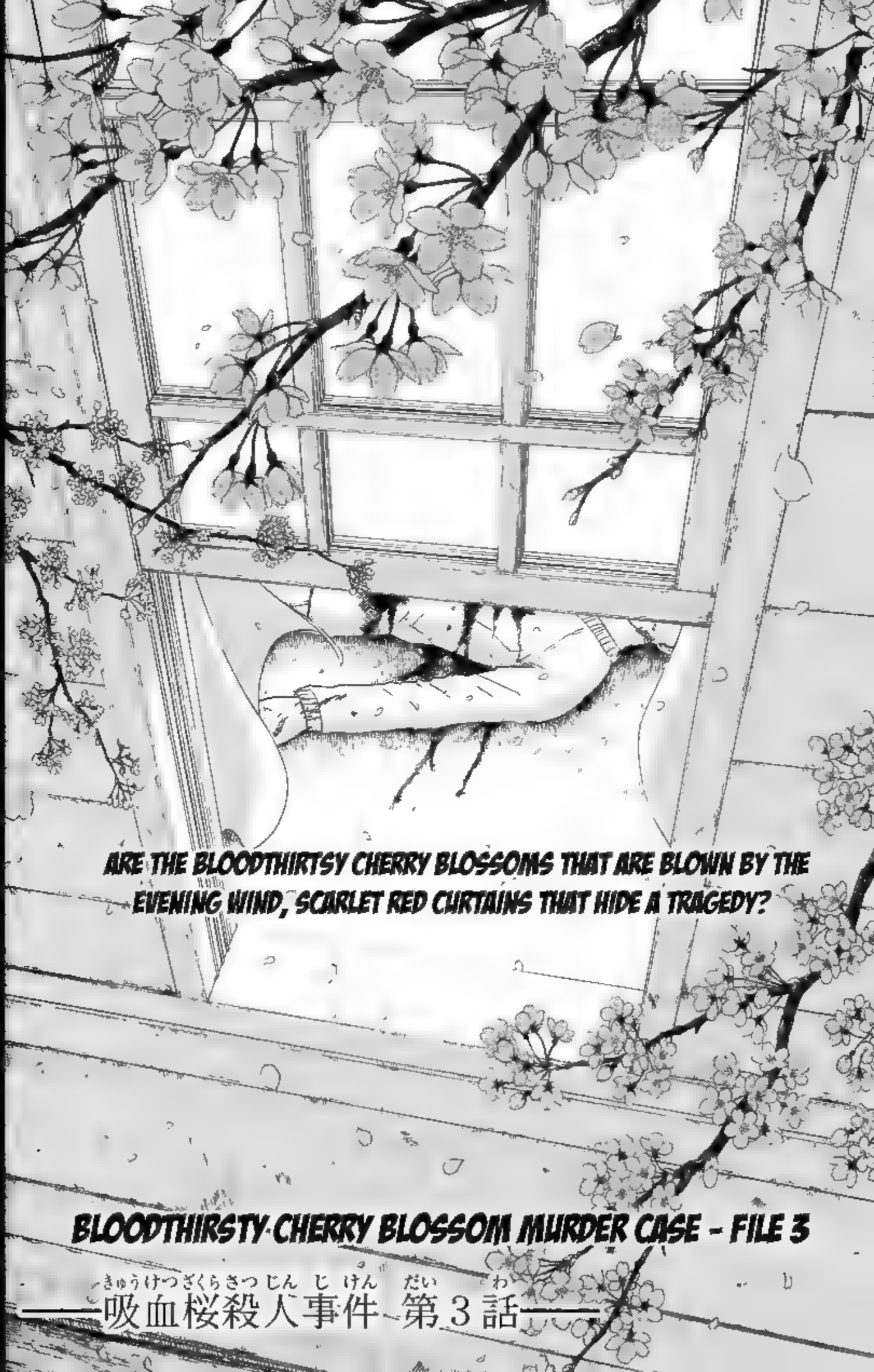
WAIT FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER AT KINDAICHI-LOVERS

SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS
原作
天樹征丸
漫画
さとうふみや
金田一少年の事件簿R
リターンズ
6

KINDAICHI LOVERS CREDITS
TRANSLATIONS : XIA
CLEANING : KINDAICHI LOVERS
IRREGULAR SCANS CREDITS
TYPESETTING : STRANGER_HANYO
PROOFREADING : GENT

DURING A PAST CASE INVESTIGATION ASSIGNMENT BY THE MYSTERY CLUB,
MIYUKI, SAKI, AND I...
WENT TO AN EX-SANATORIUM THAT HAD TURNED INTO AN INN CALLED YOZAKURATEI


AT THAT PLACE THERE WERE LUSH RED CHERRY BLOSSOMS THAT LOOK LIKE BLOOD AND WERE CALLED BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOMS.
THEN, AT NIGHT, UNDER THE PERFECTLY BLOSSOMED BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOMS,
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THE CASE'S CURTAINS ARE OPENED!
金田一少年の事件簿R



BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM MURDER CASE - FILE 3

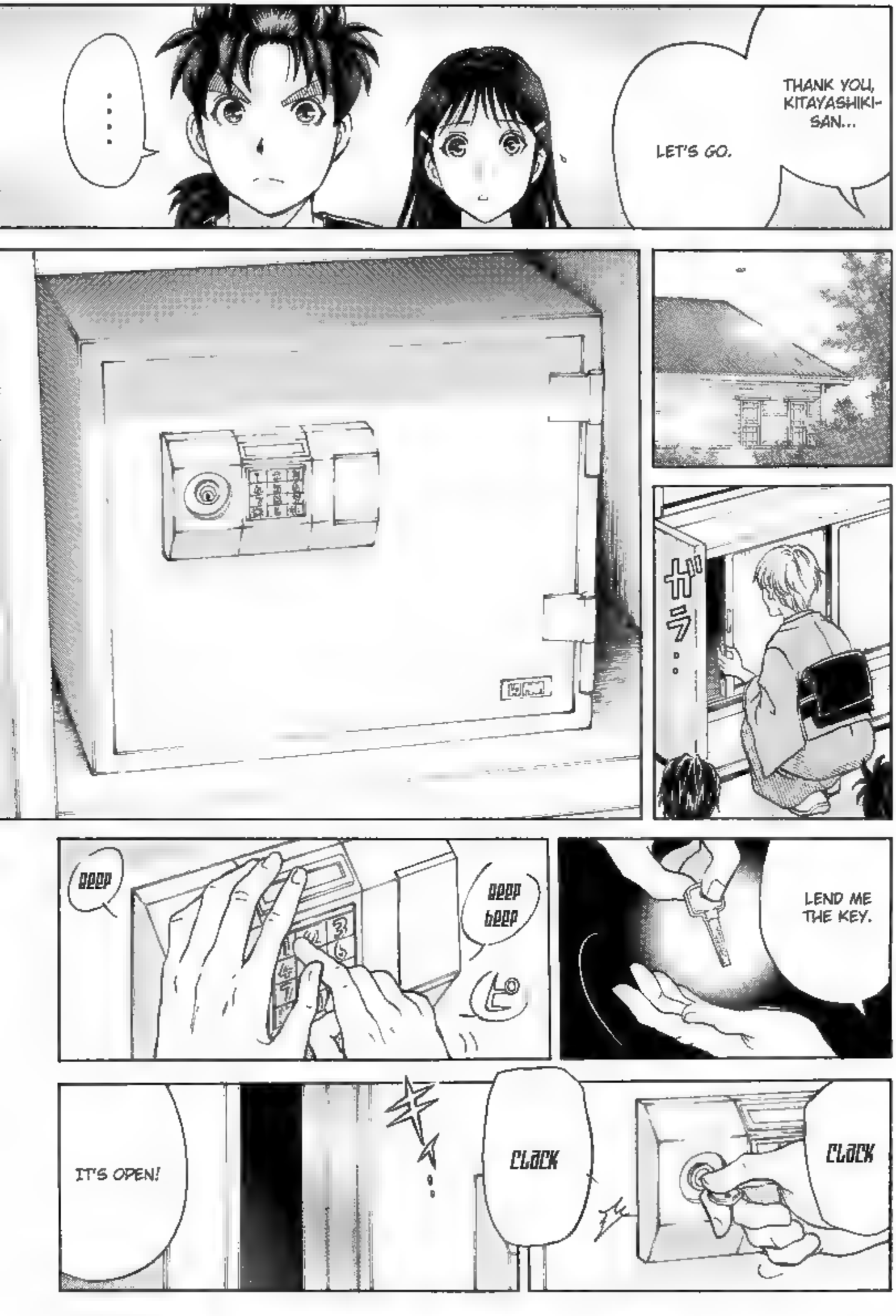
――吸血桜殺人事件 第３話――

THIS SAKI...
WELL, YOU SEE...
WELL, I'VE ALREADY ASKED TO SLEEP EARLIER BUT YOU DIDN'T.
OAAAHM!
WE PLAYED CARDS TOO MUCH LAST NIGHT.
I CAN STAY UP FOR THE WHOLE NIGHT.
AREN'T YOU SLEEPY?
DID Y'ALL SLEEP WELL LAST NIGHT?
I COULDN'T BE ALONE WITH MIYUKI!
?
BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T SLEEP....
YES, HAZAKI-SAN. WE IMMEDIATELY WENT TO SLEEP.
GOOD MORNING!
Hazaki Shiori
22 years old

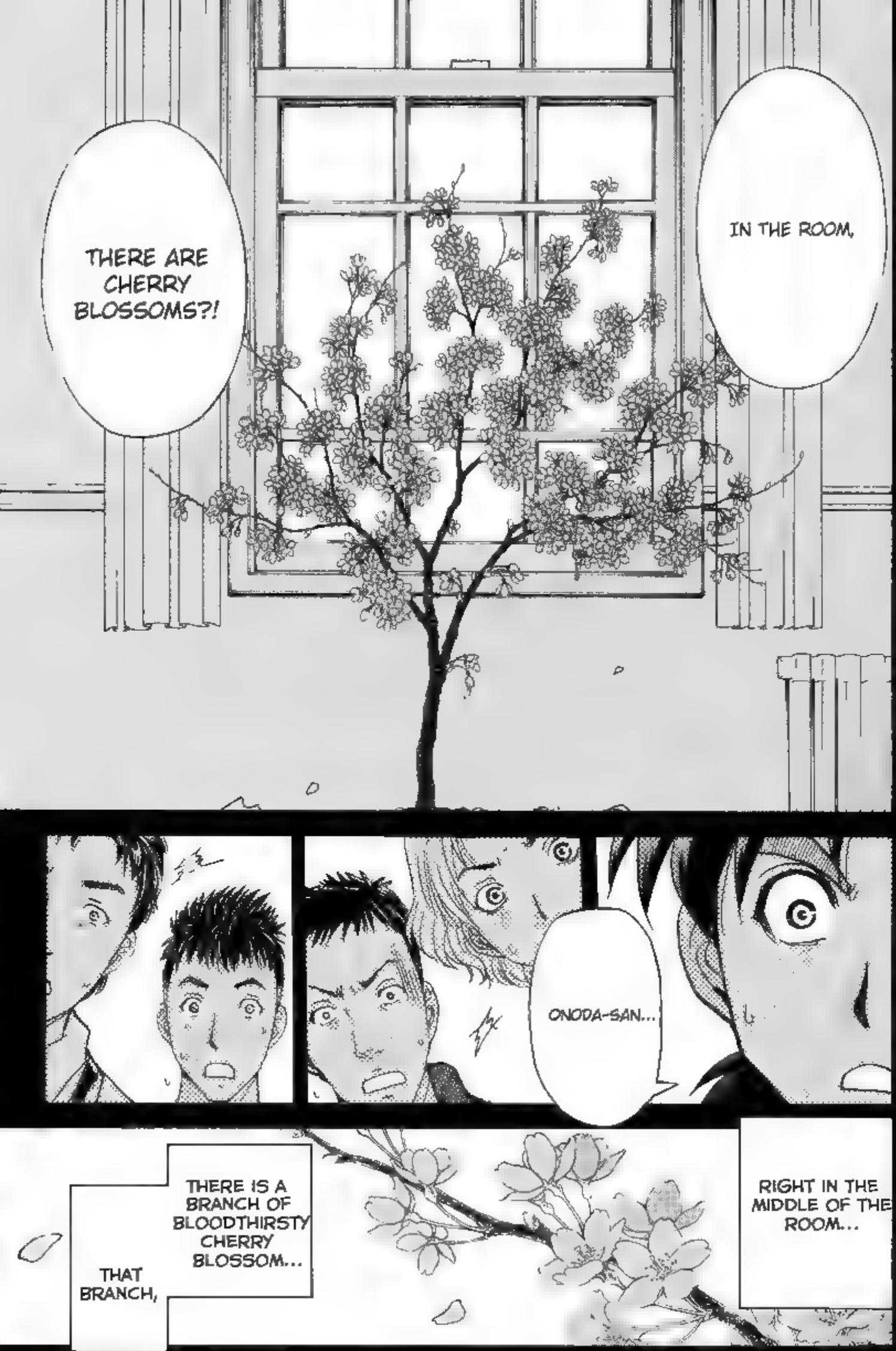
HE DRANK TOO MUCH, MAYBE HE WILL SLEEP FOR TWO DAYS!
AH, RIGHT.
Etou Chinatsu
30 years old
IS YOUR FRIEND STILL IN HIS ROOM?
Shikishima Daigo
21 years old
GOOD MORNING!
YOU MEAN WE'RE LEAVING HIM LIKE THAT? C'MON!
HUH? ISN'T IT BETTER IF WE JUST LET HIM BE, FUYUBE?
LET'S WAKE HIM UP, ETOU!
HE'S REALY MESSY, THAT ONODA!
Fuyube Sousuke
30 years old
ERR, OWNER AIZEN.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, KINDAICHI-SAN?
PLEASE ENJOY THE BREAKFAST WHILE ENJOYING THE BLOOMING CHERRY BLOSSOMS!
GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE.
Aizen Yoshino
72 years old

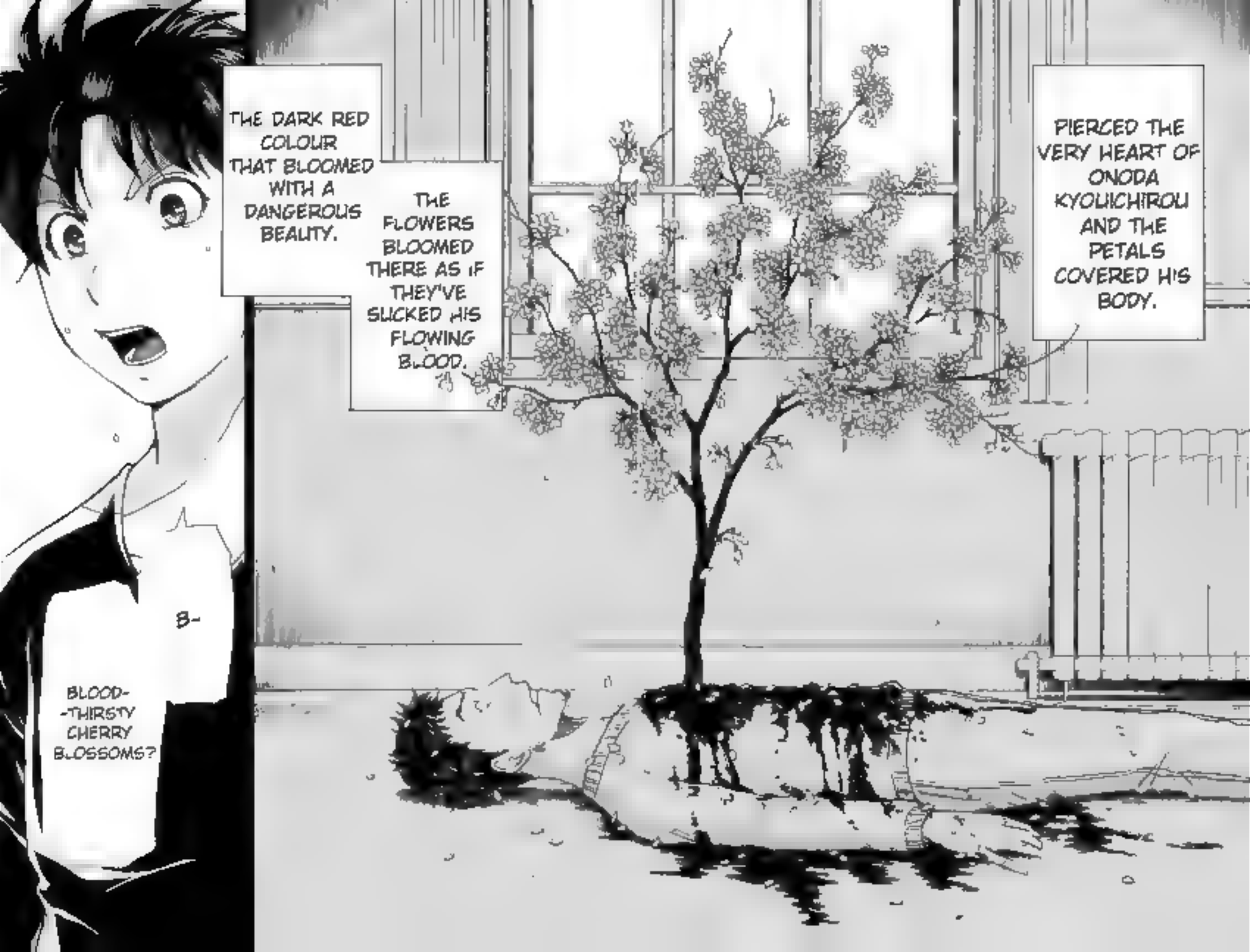
IT MADE ME REMEMBER SOMETHING IN THE PAST.
SOME--THING IN THE PAST?
WHILE THINKING OF SOMETHING.
YES...
THIS CHERRY BLOSSOM GARDEN ALONE LAST NIGHT?
WERE YOU VIEWING,
REMINDS ME OF A SPRING COLOURED BY LIVELY COLOURS.
THIS YEAR'S CHERRY BLOSSOMS,
...
CAN YOU LEND US THE MASTER KEY?
MAYBE HE OVERSLEPT BECAUSE HE IS DRUNK, BUT I WANT TO WAKE HIM UP.
ONODA'S ROOM WAS LOCKED FROM INSIDE, WE COULD'NT OPEN IT.
AH! OWNER AIZEN!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, FUYUBE-SAN, ETOU-SAN?

SO, THE MASTER KEY IS HELD BY KITAYASHIKI-SAN?
ACTUALLY...
KITAYASHIKI-SAN, I'LL BE USING THE MASTER KEY. PLEASE BRING THE KEY.
OKAY, I UNDERSTAND, OWNER.
I'LL GET IT RIGHT AWAY.
ALRIGHT.
IF ONE OF THE TWO THINGS IS MISSING, THEN THE SAFE CAN'T BE OPENED.
I'M THE ONE WHO KNOWS THE PASSCODE AND KITAYASHIKI-SAN IS THE ONE WHO KEEPS THE SAFETY BOX KEY.
THE ONES MANAGING THIS PLACE ARE ONLY KITAYASHIKI-SAN AND ME,
I'LL OPEN THE SAFE.
THANKS FOR WAITING.
Kitayashiki Gouzou
48 years old
HUH AND THAT KITAYASHIKI-SAN...
BECUASE THIS PLACE OFTEN LACKS GUEST DURING WINTER
HUFF, THAT'S QUITE A TIGHT SECURITY.


. . . .
THANK YOU, KITAYASHIKI-SAN...
LET'S GO.
ガラ...
beep
beep beep
LEND ME THE KEY.
IT'S OPEN!
CLACK
CLACK

THIS IS THE MASTER KEY.
LET'S GO!
...
...
STARS
ONODA-SAN! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
ONODA-SAN!
LOOKS LIKE THERE IS NO ANSWER...
WE'RE OPENING THE DOOR, ONODA-SAN.
!?
EH?


THERE ARE CHERRY BLOSSOMS?!
IN THE ROOM,
ONODA-SAN...
THAT BRANCH,
THERE IS A BRANCH OF BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM...
RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM...


B-
BLOOD-
-THIRSTY
CHERRY
BLOSSOMS?
THE DARK RED COLOUR THAT BLOOMED WITH A DANGEROUS BEAUTY.
THE FLOWERS BLOOMED THERE AS IF THEY'VE SUCKED HIS FLOWING BLOOD.
PIERCED THE VERY HEART OF ONODA KYOUICHIROU AND THE PETALS COVERED HIS BODY.

CHECK HIS PULSE, ETOU! YOU'RE A DOCTOR, RIGHT?
Y-YES.
H-HE DIED?
ONODA...
KYAA!!
TRY LOOKING AT THE ONE THERE!
I'LL LOOK AT THE ONE HERE!
AL-ALRIGHT.
MAYBE HE ESCAPED THROUGH ONE OF THE TWO WIN--DOWS THERE.
THE DOOR IS LOCKED!
THAT MEANS THE CULPRIT...
ガタ-!
FUYUBE-SAN, WHAT ABOUT THE WINDOW THERE?
IT'S LOCKED HERE!
rattle rattle

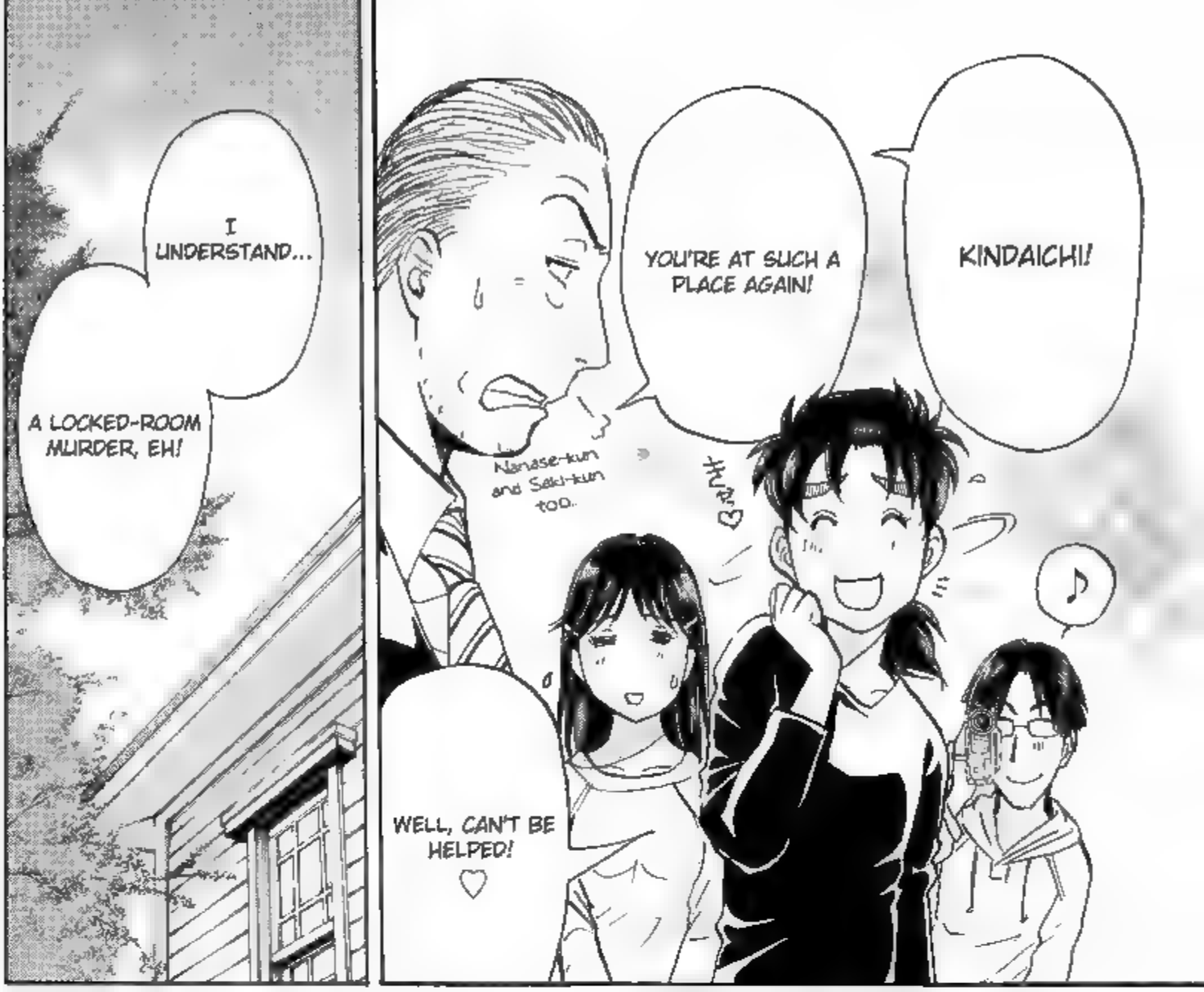
AND ESCAPED THROUGH THE DOOR!
THAT MEANS, THE CULPRIT TOOK THE KEY KEPT BY ONODA-SAN
ガラ～
IT'S ALSO LOCKED HERE.
CLOCK
HUH?
THAT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE!
THE KEY!
LOOK AT THE THING WINDING THIS CHERRY BLOSSOM BRANCH!

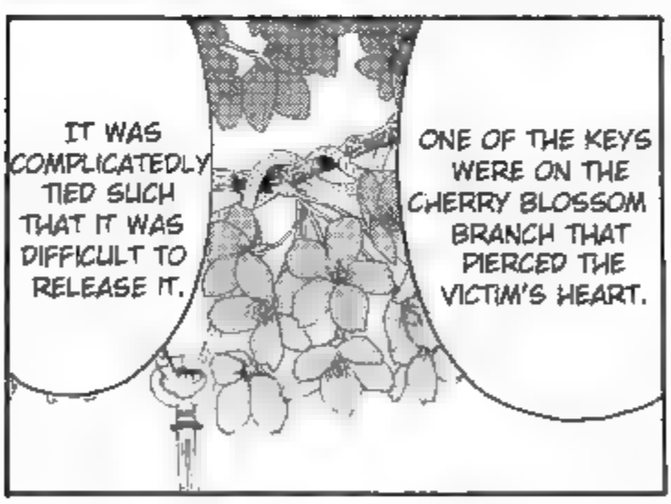
THE COLOUR OF THE BRAID,
IT REALLY IS ONODA-SAN'S ROOM KEY.
I WAS GIVEN THIS BRAIDED KEY WHEN I CHECKED IN!
THAT MEANS IT'S OUR OWN ROOM KEY, RIGHT?
THE KEY WINDING THIS BRANCH...
CAN'T BE TAKEN EASILY.
FLYLUBE! YOU'RE A LAWYER, RIGHT? YOU'LL BE THE WITNESS LATER!
I WANNA TAKE THIS CHERRY BLOSSOM BRANCH OFF NOW, BUT I HAVEN'T TOUCHED IT AT ALL, ALRIGHT!
AL-ALRIGHT! OF COURSE.
I CAN'T! THE KEY IS TIGHTLY WOUND, IT CAN'T BE UNTIED OFF THE BRANCH!
TRY BREAKING OFF THE ENTIRE BRANCH!
GRIP!
!?

IT'S AN OLD TYPE KEY BUT IT'S MADE OVERSEAS...
AND IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE TO DUPLICATE IT.
OWNER AIZEN, THIS ROOM'S KEYS ARE ONLY THIS ONE AND THE MASTER KEY IN THE SAFE, RIGHT?
YES
THERE'S NO MISTAK--ING IT!
IT'S INDEED ONODA-SAN'S KEY!
HAJIME-CHAN...
SENPAI, COULD THIS BE...
I ONCE TRIED WITH ANOTHER ROOM'S KEY, BUT IT WAS TO NO AVAIL. I HAD TO BREAK THE DOOR.
THIS KEY IS AN OLD MODEL GERMAN-MADE KEY THAT WAS MADE COMPLICA--TED, SO IT CAN'T BE BROKEN INTO.
!?
A LOCKED ROOM MURDER?!
...
THAT SOUNDS IMPOSSIBLE! ESPECIALLY FOR SOMEONE LIKE ONODA...
SO, YOU MEAN HE PIERCED THAT FLOWER BRANCH TO HIS OWN BODY?
LIKE SUICIDE...
IS THERE ANOTHER POSSIBILITY?

BUT IT'S POSSIBLE THAT ONODA-SAN..
KEPT SOMETHING THAT HE DIDN'T WANNA BE KNOWN BY OTHERS.
SOMETHING THAT CAN DRIVE HIM TO COMMIT SUICIDE!
.....
.....
!?
IT'S THE BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOM!
MIYAZAWA-SAN!
KIGATA OURYUU...
THE LEGENDARY MURDERER HAS COME BACK!
HE WAS TEMPTED BY THE SCARLET RED, BLOOMING BLOODTHIRSTY CHERRY BLOSSOMS.
.....
Miyazawa Shouko
34 years old

.....
.....
Toramoto Katsuo
76 years old
I AM INSPECTOR KENMOCHI FROM POLICE HQ.
OH! OLD MAN!
HMM? THIS VOICE?


I UNDERSTAND...
A LOCKED-ROOM MURDER, EH!
KINDAICHI!
YOU'RE AT SUCH A PLACE AGAIN!
Hanase-kun and Saki-kun too..
WELL, CAN'T BE HELPED!


IT WAS COMPLICATEDLY TIED SUCH THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO RELEASE IT.
ONE OF THE KEYS WERE ON THE CHERRY BLOSSOM BRANCH THAT PIERCED THE VICTIM'S HEART.

YES.
INDIRECTLY, IT CAN BE CALLED AS A CLOSED ROOM.

YEAH.
WHAT IF A DUPLICATE KEY WAS MADE?
HAVE YOU INVESTIGATED IT, OLD MAN?

HMM, THAT MEANS IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO PUT THE KEY WITH A STRING THROUGH THE OPENING ON THE DOOR.

IT CAN BE SAID THAT NO ONE COULD'VE MADE ITS DUPLICATE.
MOREOVER, IT'S AN OLD GERMAN MODEL THAT IS SELDOM USED.
LOOKS LIKE THE KEY WAS MADE WITH SPECIAL TECHNIQUES.
I'VE SENT THE KEY DATA TO THE POLICE EXPERT STAFF.
WHO KEEPS THE MASTER KEY ARE ACCOMPLICES, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
IF OWNER AIZEN AND CHEF KITAYASHIKI,
MM— IF IT'S NOT POSSIBLE TO MAKE A DUPLICATE KEY, THAT MEANS...
TAKING THE TROUBLE TO MAKE THAT ROOM AS A CLOSED ROOM.
BUT THAT WOULD MAKE THEM AS THE MOST SUSPICIOUS ONES ...I DON'T KNOW.
I AGREE.
ACCORDING TO MY HUNCH AS A POLICEMAN.
WELL, IT'S POSSIBLE INDEED...
BUT IT'S THE MOST ILLOGICAL THING!

AT A GLANCE IT SEEMS TO WANT TO SHOW THAT IT'S A VERY STRANGE CRIME SCENE.
BUT I THINK THE CULPRIT USED A CLEVER TRICK LIKE THIS NOT JUST TO AVOID SUSPICION.
I'M SURE THIS CASE HASN'T ENDED YET.
I HAVE A BAD PREMONITION!
TERIFFYING FLOWERS THAT BLOOM ON A HEART! WHERE WILL THIS BRANCH OF HATRED GROW NEXT?
第7巻につづく

金田一少年の事件簿R

KINDAICHI
RETURNS